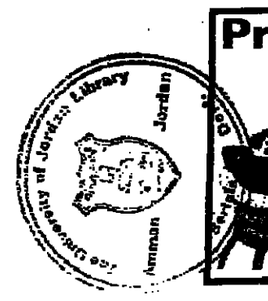
age 8
ressure on British travel agents

THE JERUSALEM
POST

Vol. LVI, No. 16840 Tuesday, May 31, 1988 • Sivan 15, 5748 • Shawal 16, 1408 NIS 1.20 (Eilat NIS 1.05)



SECOND EDITION

Rabin continues his Palestinian dialogue

By JOEL GREENBERG
Jerusalem Post Reporter

In a demonstration of dialogue during the waning of violence in the territories, Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin yesterday held his second meeting in a week with prominent Palestinian personalities from the territories.

The meeting was billed by defence sources as a renewal of political dialogue with a local Palestinian leadership, but Palestinian participants said they merely aired complaints, and heard Rabin review the state of the Middle East peace process.

Participating in the meeting at the Defence Ministry in Tel Aviv were Othman Hallak of Jerusalem, editor of the pro-Jordanian *An-Nahar* newspaper; Hanna Nasser of Bethlehem, a businessman who is chairman of the Jerusalem District Electricity Company; Dr. Yasser Obeid, Jordan's chief medical administrator in the West Bank and the deputy director of the Ramallah Goverment Hospital; and Na'im Khoury, a Baptist bishop from Bethlehem.

A participant who declined to be named said the Palestinians had urged Rabin to lift the host of administrative and economic restrictions imposed in response to the uprising, including the requirements to prove payment of taxes before receiving permits and licences. The Palestinians also urged the release of young detainees, including pupils of schools currently being opened in the West Bank.

Rabin promised to consider some of the requests positively, though he gave no concrete commitments.

Reviewing the peace process, Rabin was optimistic, but said he did not see any real movement possible before the forthcoming elections in Israel and the U.S., the participants said. Defence sources said "various political topics" were discussed.

Rabin had met Thursday with four businessmen from Nablus, and more meetings are expected. Rabin has asserted in the past that, when the uprising in the territories dies down, it will be possible to renew dialogue with local Palestinian leaders.

Speaking earlier in Kfar Sava, the defence minister said that the U.S. peace initiative had been launched too late. At the same time, he felt it was too early to negotiate peace with local Palestinian leaders, some of whom may be in jail.

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Reagan call for rights sidelines arms issue

MOSCOW – U.S. President Ronald Reagan, speaking in the heart of the Soviet capital yesterday, called on the Kremlin to cast aside restrictions of the past and grant the Soviet people full basic human rights.

Resuming the offensive on the rights issue, which has already deeply offended Soviet officials, Reagan told dissidents and Jewish activists at an unprecedented meeting: "I came here to do what I could to give you strength." Only an hour earlier at the Danilov Monastery he had launched a hard-hitting appeal for religious liberty, demanding that thousands of closed churches be reopened and that banned congregations be allowed to worship openly.

He told the dissidents invited to the U.S. Ambassador's residence that he recognized that his summit host, Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, had instituted many reforms in the three years since he came to power.

But Reagan's new onslaught, in terms similar to those of a controversial speech he delivered in Helsinki on the way to Moscow, was an implicit rejection of a Gorbachev appeal for a balanced approach to the issue.

Welcoming him to the Soviet Union on Sunday, Gorbachev had suggested the president should avoid preaching at a time when the Kremlin leadership was implementing wide-ranging reforms to tackle problems inherited from the past. Reagan told his applauding audience in the ballroom of the residence, Spaso House: "Whatever the future may bring, the commitment of the U.S. will nevertheless remain unshakeable. On human rights, on the fundamental dignity of the human person, there can be no relenting, for now we must work for more, always more."

The dissidents urged Reagan at the meeting to keep pressing the Kremlin on the rights issue.

"Even now, many political activists are not free," said Sergei Kovalyov, a dissident freed last year from a labour camp.

Yuli Kosharovsky, who said he has been trying to emigrate for 17 years, said: "Despite democratization, our lot has not improved. The government continues to deny our right to teach and learn our [Jewish] culture."

More summit – Pages 3,5

The hour-long meeting, during which the dissenters were introduced by U.S. Ambassador Jack Matlock and spoke from a rostrum to the president and his top advisers, was relayed live by U.S. television networks. The relay could be seen in the summit press centre and some hotels for foreign tourists but was not broadcast by Moscow Television for viewing by ordinary Russians.

Initial reaction from Soviet officials to the president's speech at Spaso House and an earlier address on the same theme at the 13th century Danilov Monastery was restrained – although there seemed little doubt they were extremely unhappy over his remarks.

Reagan's decision to continue pressing Gorbachev on human rights pushed the issue firmly back to centre stage at the five-day meeting after focus had earlier on Monday briefly switched to arms control.

On arms control, spokesmen for both leaders said that they had earlier made progress toward a pact to cut long-range nuclear arms and were ready to sign two lesser arms deals at the summit.

"President Reagan is satisfied that the talks are progressing in a very productive way," White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said.

They discussed Reagan's plans for a "Star Wars" space-based anti-missile defense, the biggest obstacle to a proposed Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty to cut superpower nuclear arsenals by 30 to 50 percent.

But, said Soviet spokesman Gennady Gerasimov, "the two sides could not convince each other," over the Star Wars program, which the Kremlin says would violate the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty.

No one was predicting a breakthrough in the negotiations on a START treaty for halving the superpowers' long-range missile arsenals, but there was movement in two of the most stubborn areas, mobile missiles and cruise missiles launched from warplanes.

The twist provided by Reagan's new rights onslaught came half-way through the business agenda of the summit, at which both had pledged on Sunday they would work to improve relations between their countries.

The president leaves Moscow on Thursday after four scheduled rounds of talks with Gorbachev and a ceremony tomorrow at which they will exchange instruments of ratification of the INF missile treaty they

(Continued on Page Three)

Nine-month-old girl loses eye in Gaza riot

By BRADLEY BURSTON
and JOEL GREENBERG

ZA – A nine-month-old girl lost eye and suffered a fractured arm ly yesterday, when troops dis- sing a violent demonstration in Jabalya refugee camp opened with rubber bullets.

he girl, Huda Masoud, was ap- ently in her mother's arms when was struck by the bullet. The ther, Najah Masoud, 29, was also and suffered a fracture of her left 1.

After treatment at Shifa Hospital e, the infant was evacuated to rzilai Hospital in Ashkelon, ere her eye and fractured right 1 were operated on. The girl was overing from surgery and in sta- condition, the Barzilai Hospital keswoman said last night.

he Jabalya demonstration erupt- early yesterday morning, after a few on the camp was lifted, and olchildren gathered in many ar- throwing rocks at soldiers and sing vehicles.

outhern Command officials, dis- nting reports that the mother been struck by live ammunition, 1 that the incident is under estigation.

tioting also broke out yesterday the Rafah and Shatti refugee ps. Gaza hospitals reported 17 s of injuries related to beatings, gas, and rubber bullets.

leanwhile security forces have troyed the home of the Rafah dent who reportedly confessed to two 1983 murders, including the killing of a Gaza policeman, military sources here confirmed yesterday.

Mahmoud al-Kurd, 32, of the Rafah refugee camp, was arrested last May 10, in the course of a major operation against suspected southern Gaza terror cells. According to security forces investigators, following his arrest, Al-Kurd confessed to the murders of two Rafah residents, a policeman and a pharmacist, as well as a more recent incident in which he allegedly shot at IDF personnel.

He reportedly has also confessed to participating in a number of bombing attempts directed against Israeli citizens.

Atrocity charge – Page 2

In the West Bank, Palestinians observed a general strike in response to an appeal in leaflet No.18 of the "United National Leadership of the Uprising," which called for a one-day shutdown during the superpower summit in Moscow.

Shops were shuttered, and only IDF patrols could be seen on the deserted streets. Schools in the area operated normally, though classes were reportedly boycotted at the Kalandia refugee camp, apparently in protest of Sunday night's sealing of the home of a local resident suspected of recent petrol bomb attacks on Israeli cars and an IDF patrol.

(Continued on Back Page)

Jewish refuseniks demonstrate at the Lenin Library yesterday during U.S. President Reagan's visit to Moscow. (Reuter)

Soviet Union to publish defence budget for first time

WASHINGTON (Reuter) – The Soviet Union will soon publish a defence budget, a Soviet official said yesterday. It would be the first official revelation of the extent of Moscow's military might.

Nikolai Shishlin, asked by a U.S. television interviewer whether his country would soon publish a defence budget, replied, "Surely. Yes, surely, surely." Shishlin, deputy chief of propaganda of the Soviet Communist party's central committee, said in the interview from Moscow that the first military budget would be issued, "as soon as we'll have our reform of prices." He did not say when that would be.

U.S. Defence Secretary Frank Carlucci, who was to meet his Soviet counterpart in Moscow yesterday, said on Sunday that publishing a budget would be a good way to bring Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's policy of perestroika, or restructuring, to the Soviet military. "Perestroika has not yet reached the Soviet military establishment," Carlucci said in a U.S. television interview.

Carlucci said Western estimates placed Soviet military expenditures at between 15 and 17 per cent of the gross national product annually. A Soviet defence budget would allow the West to analyse Soviet military priorities and defence postures.

Most recent fires set by 'alestinian arsonists'

By ANDY COURT,
and ASHER WALLFISH
Jerusalem Post Reporters

ver half the fires that have re- tly ravaged vast stretches of for- and farms have been set by Pal- nian nationalists, a senior official mated yesterday as flames con- ed to flare.

It's time that the Israeli people w that there's a 'second front' [in political struggle here]" said nachem Sachs, deputy director he Jewish National Fund's for- y department.

1 the Knesset, members of the rior Committee were told that estinian terrorist organizations ourage their supporters to carry arson attacks on forested, culti- d, and natural pasture areas.

During the Peace for Galilee operation, the IDF found documents at terrorist headquarters in Lebanon, listing reports filed by terrorist cells in Israel about their arson operations, a senior Interior Ministry official said.

Yitzhak Markovitch, deputy director-general of the ministry, said the police were questioning suspects in a number of locations where arson is suspected, particularly in Galilee and the Adulam region southwest of Jerusalem. The fires started simultaneously in different spots, he said.

The Agriculture Ministry yesterday reported that 70,000 dunams of pastures had been burned in recent weeks.

(Continued on Page Three)

'Cairo still open to compromise'

ELAINE RUTH FLETCHER
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

CAIRO – Former Egyptian prime minister and the head of Egypt's ruling party Mustafa Khalil yesterday indicated that Egypt was still open to a compromise settlement in the Taba border dispute.

In an interview here with *The Jerusalem Post*, Khalil said Egypt would like to discuss with Israel the ideas for a compromise recently proposed by U.S. State Department legal adviser Abraham Sofaer. "I think his ideas are worth deliberation on the Israeli side. I think there is a chance to come to an agreement according to the Sofaer paper."

Khalil blamed the Likud for blocking a compromise on Taba. "The Likud is blocking everything, and then they complain about relations between Israel and Egypt." Khalil said that if the Egyptian government asked him, he would be happy to travel to Israel to discuss a negotiated compromise on Taba. Alternatively, Israeli Foreign Ministry officials could come to Cairo.

Rumours circulating in the past few days here suggest that Foreign Ministry Director-General Avraham Tamir may soon come to Cairo if the Israeli cabinet authorizes such a visit.

Khalil's statement came after the publication of Egyptian government statements in the press here in favour of the Sofaer proposals.

Sources here suggested yesterday that the Likud might be blocking the efforts to achieve a compromise so that if the arbitrators decide against Israel, the Likud could blame Labour in the election campaign for the loss of Taba. (See "Egyptian Official Speaks Out," page 2.)

Heat hit crops to tune of $150m.

By JUDY MALTZ
For The Jerusalem Post

The country's agricultural sector has suffered $150 million in damages as a result of the recent heat waves, Zvi Hermoni, head of the Natural Disasters Fund estimated yesterday.

The main victim of the *sharav* conditions, he said, has been the avocado crop, of which over 70 per cent has been destroyed, at a cost to the country's farmers of $70-$80 million. According to preliminary forecasts, a bumper crop of close to 100,000 tons of avocado had been expected in the coming season.

"If we reach a bare 20,000 tons now, we will have reason to celebrate," Ezra Meir, head of the Fruit Marketing Board said last night. Most of the avocado flowers, he explained, had already developed into small fruits by the time the *sharav* set in. The intense heat then caused them to fall off the trees.

The next avocado harvest will be too small for export, according to Hermoni. This will create heavy losses for Agrexco and the packing houses, he said, and cause serious problems with customers overseas as well.

Only 26,000 tons of avocado were sold abroad during the past season, following record exports of nearly 90,000 tons in 1986/87. This sharp drop occurred mainly because the avocado tree is generally fruitful one season and barren the next. Buyers abroad had already begun to express frustration with Agrexco for not fulfilling its commitments.

"There's no doubt that they're going to start tapping new Mexican suppliers now," predicted Meir.

According to Agrexco spokesman Haim Keller, the marketing agency has already informed its clients abroad about the recent disaster. It has also formed a special emergency committee to study the problem and present its recommendations soon.

The *sharav* has not left other agricultural branches untouched. According to Hermoni, over half the country's mango crop designated for export, expected to reach 5,000 tons, has been destroyed. Some 70 per cent of the persimmon flowers have fallen off their trees, and NIS 2 million worth of apples have been destroyed.

The large number of chickens dead of heat exhaustion, he estimated, will cost poultry farmers about NIS 1m. One hundred tons of fish were also lost.

Hundreds of thousands of shekels worth of summer fruits have been destroyed, Hermoni said, as has a large share of the country's citrus crop for next fall. Although it is still too early to estimate the exact damage to the country's olive trees, Hermoni predicted there would be much less olive oil around next season.

remen battle to contain Galilee blaze

By DAVID RUDGE

cores of firemen and volunteers last night were still battling to trol a fierce blaze that destroyed e 10,000 dunams of brushland th of Rosh Pina.

spokesman for the fire brigade he north said the fire began in six locations.

The fire broke out in the afternoon near Moshav Dishon and spread south towards Moshav Sde Eliezer, some eight kilometres away. Firemen managed to contain the blaze and prevent the flames from reaching the settlement.

Philippines ferry sinks with 115 aboard

PAGADIAN, Philippines (AFP) – A ferry with an estimated 115 people aboard sank in stormy weather on its way to this city on the southern island of Mindanao.

There were no immediate reports of survivors, except for an unidentified person rescued by fishermen while clinging to a wooden box at sea, the Pagadian coast guard station chief said.

Military officials said two air force helicopters were scouring choppy shark-infested seas.

eirut car bomb kills 20

RUT (Reuter) – A powerful car ıb exploded near an office of the istian Phalange party on Mon- , killing at least 20 people and ring more than 78, security and pital sources said.

hey said a man parked the blue vo car packed with an estimated ilograms of TNT in the central ict of Ashrafiyeh in Christian : Beirut, on the border of Mos- West, and fled immediately.

mbulances rushed casualties to pital as black smoke billowed 1 the area and firemen battled to ain blazes in cars and buildings.

explosion, the second most de- ctive in Lebanon this year, cked four apartment blocks and y damaged another eight, wit- es said. It gouged a crater two es wide and 60 cms. deep.

euter photographer Roger ıkarzel reported from the scene: arred corpses, with limbs ripped y the force of the explosion, lay ywhere in pools of blood." He streets were littered with the gled, scorched remains of about ars, uprooted lamp posts, tele- e cables and shattered glass.

olice said the booby-trapped car exploded about 100 metres from the second largest office of the Phalange party, and near the home of Joseph al-Hashem, Lebanon's minister of health, social welfare, posts and communications. Neither building was damaged and no one has yet claimed responsibility for the blast.

Scores of frantic militiamen and security men firing machinegun bursts in the air rushed to the scene and cordoned off the area, witnesses said.

Hospital sources said most of the bodies of the dead were badly charred, making identification difficult. They estimated that 82 people were wounded. Witnesses reported hysterical scenes at the Greek Orthodox St. George's Hospital, where most of the casualties were taken. Relatives paced the corridors in search of the missing. "Now and then the wailing cries of women broke the silence as they identified one of the dead," one woman said.

Syrian soldiers manned checkpoints, searched cars and checked the identity cards of drivers and passers-by after settling in behind newly-built sandbag barricades.

(Analysis – Page 4)

Scene of the devastation after a car bomb went off in Beirut yesterday killing 20 people. (Reuter)

Holland harries Harry the horse

Jerusalem Post Reporter

A prize-winning show horse that was to represent Israel at an international competition in France was on his way home last night after officials in Amsterdam airport threatened to shoot him.

Harry, a 10-year-old, U.S.-born brown-and-white Apaloosa stallion, was earlier flown to Amsterdam from Tel Aviv because El Al cargo planes do not operate to France. He was to be trucked from Amsterdam to Toulouse, where the competiton is scheduled for June 4-12.

According to Benni Raveh of Moshav Ramot on the Golan heights, where Harry has been living for more than two years, the Dutch officials had political motives.

"First they said Harry didn't have the proper blood-test documents. When we presented the documents to the vet, they said it made no difference. We asked for 12 hours to arrange to fly him to Frankfurt, but they said they'd shoot him unless he was on the next flight back to Israel. We had no choice."

Rabbis slam High Court 'interference' on Halacha

By HAIM SHAPIRO
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The Chief Rabbinical Council yesterday issued a strong protest over what it called the "interference" of the High Court of Justice in matters of Halacha.

The council was referring to two recent rulings: one which said it was unlawful to bar women from a body convened to elect a chief rabbi of Tel Aviv and another against barring a woman from membership in the Yeroham religious council. Although they protested against both rulings, the rabbis made it clear that they viewed the participation of a woman in the religious council as far more serious than membership in the electing body.

"I see that the High Court has interfered in matters that don't relate to it. They infringed on our authority," Sephardic Chief Rabbi Mordechai Eliahu said.

In explaining the Chief Rabbinical Council's decision, Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Avraham Shapiro told *The Jerusalem Post* that it was "unjust" that those who were unqualified to deal with Halacha should decide on religious matters.

"When [the High Court] has to deal with a medical problem, they ask doctors, and when they have to deal with Halacha they should ask us," he said.

As for the argument that Justice Menachem Eilon was an observant Jew and an expert in Jewish law, the Ashkenazi chief rabbi said that this was not sufficient. Only a body constituted to do so could deal with Halacha, and not the "secular" High Court.

Both rabbis agreed that they viewed as especially grave the matter of Lea Sbakdiel, who has been named to the Yeroham Religious Council. The rabbis said that female participation in the council was against Halacha for reasons of "modesty." They said that if women were members, Tora sages would not agree to participate in the councils.

(Continued on Page Four)

The weather at major Swissair destinations

30.5.88

	MIN. °C	MIN. °F	MAX. °C	MAX. °F	
AMSTERDAM	9	48	17	63	Cloudy
BRUSSELS	6	43	17	63	Cloudy
BUENOS AIRES	2	36	11	51	Cloudy
CHICAGO	15	59	31	88	Clear
COPENHAGEN	13	55	23	73	Clear
FRANKFURT	9	48	18	64	Cloudy
GENEVA	8	46	16	61	Clear
HELSINKI	14	57	24	75	Clear
HONG KONG	25	77	29	84	Clear
JOHANNESBURG	1	34	16	61	Clear
LISBON	14	57	20	68	Cloudy
LONDON	11	52	15	59	Rain
MADRID	13	55	23	73	Clear
MONTREAL	15	59	27	81	Cloudy
NEW YORK	16	61	31	88	Clear
OSLO	14	57	24	75	Rain
PARIS	13	55	20	72	Rain
RIO DE JANEIRO	19	66	27	81	Rain
SAO PAULO	12	53	22	72	Cloudy
STOCKHOLM	21	70	26	78	Clear
TOKYO	16	60	26	80	Rain
TORONTO	13	55	29	84	Clear
VIENNA	15	58	24	75	Clear
ZURICH	13	55	17	63	Sunny

*For the latest weather conditions contact Swissair.

Tel Aviv: 1 Ben Yehuda St. Tel. 03-5102820
Jerusalem: 30 Jaffa St., 02-231373.
Haifa: 2 Sea Road, 04-364555
Beer Sheva: 38 Ha'avot St., 057-35282.
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THE WEATHER

FORECAST: Nice with regular temperatures for the season.

	Yesterday's Humidity	Yesterday's Min-Max	Today's Max
Jerusalem	–	23-25	24
Golan	22	22-30	29
Nahariya	–	–	–
Safad	25	22-27	25
Haifa Port	72	21-25	28
Tiberias	25	29-35	32
Nazareth	–	–	–
Afula	56	21-29	29
Shomron	30	21-28	27
Tel Aviv	72	21-26	26
B-G Airport	44	17-28	27
Jericho	32	15-28	32
Gaza	74	22-25	25
Beersheba	25	18-30	30
Eilat	13	27-39	38

ARRIVALS

For the *annual meeting of the Board of* Governors of Tel Aviv University: Mr. Wolfram Brueck, from Germany, for the conferment of an honorary fellowship; Dr. and Mrs. Williamosky, from the USA.

Hospitals on minimal footing

By JUDY SIEGEL
Post Science and Health Reporter

The public hospitals will perform little more than emergency life-saving today, as sanctions by state and Kupat Holim hospital doctors force them to operate on a reduced Shabbat schedule.

Thousands of outpatient clinic visits and non-emergency operations have been cancelled. The only medical institutions unaffected by the current paralysis are the private hospitals – voluntary hospitals such as *Hadassah and Bikur Holim in* Jerusalem and the religious Laniado Hospital in Netanya, where a no-strike clause is part of every worker's contract.

Sanctions by state hospital physicians, inspired by wage demands, began yesterday and will continue today. Kupat Holim doctors begin their intensified sanctions today and continue them tomorrow, in "honour" of the Histadrut health fund's 12th national convention, which *opens in Jerusalem at 4 p.m.*

The health fund doctors are boycotting the convention.

Dr. *Haim Solan, head of the* Kupat Holim doctors' union, said that the hospital system is a "victim of the political struggle between the coalition parties, and reflects the weakness of the government." Haim Fassa, the soon-to-be-elected director of Kupat Holim, said that he favours a pluralistic health system in which the public hospitals are *strengthened and in which private* medicine continues to co-exist with it for those who can afford the cost.

Finance Minister Moshe Nissim met yesterday with Histadrut Secretary-General Yisrael Kessar, along with the Histadrut's Haim Haberfeld and the Treasury's director-general Victor Medina and wage chief Ya'acov Danon. Each side reiterated its *familiar* positions, and no headway was made.

Patients who had been prepared *physically and mentally for surgery* yesterday were again disappointed, some of them being informed of *their second or third postponement.*

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir told Israel Radio yesterday that he did not force the cabinet to reach a decision on the hospital crisis on Sunday, or at the two previous sessions, because he wanted a decision backed by near-consensus.

Meanwhile, the union representing 10,000 cleaning and administrative workers in the state hospitals decided that their sanctions, begun yesterday, are to continue indefinitely.

Israeli couple shocked by results of tissue test on adopted baby

'Life without Carolyn is not worth living'

By ANDY GOLDBERG
and DVORAH GETZLER
Jerusalem Post Reporters

"Life without Carolyn is not worth living. If her real parents truly love her then they will think of her and allow *Carolyn* to stay with us."

This was the shocked reaction of Lod residents Ya'acov and Simone Turgeman yesterday after the High Court of *Justice* released the results of tissue-typing tests which confirmed that the Brazilian couple suing for custody of the Turgeman's adopted daughter Carolyn were in fact her real parents.

"I was always sure that she was my baby and now I expect to get custody and to leave the country," the mother, Rosalinda Gonzales, said after the court announced the results. The couple claim that their daughter, then four months old, was kidnapped in November 1986 and sold to the Turgemans.

"I do not attach any importance to the thoughts and feelings of the Turgeman family. Why does everybody worry about the Turgemans and not about our situation and the suffering that we have been through over the past two years? My daughter will be happy in Brazil. She can't be hidden here. She needs to go home," Gonzales said.

The Turgemans, however, have not resigned themselves to giving up the child and will fight to retain custody. Their lawyers argue that the Tel Aviv District Court – and not the High Court of Justice – has jurisdiction over the case. They also intend to argue that it is in the child's best interests to remain with the Turgemans.

"She knows only us; she speaks only Hebrew. When she grows a little we will tell her about the adoption and when she is 18 she can decide for herself," Simone Turgeman said.

The affair was exposed at the end of 1987 by a British television crew who brought Gonzales to Israel and tracked down the Turgemans.

Simone Turgeman claimed that the family has been living in a nightmare ever since. "We went to South America after trying everything for 15 years to have a baby. Never did it occur to us that we were doing something illegal."

Asked about the case yesterday, Hebrew University law professor Pinhas Shifman said contested adoption cases always throw into sharp relief the conflicting claims of the best interests of the child and the rights of the natural parents.

Shifman, who teaches family law, recalled that after the Holocaust, Jewish families had been at pains to reclaim children sheltered by non-Jews in the countries under Nazi domination.

The Dutch government of the post-World War II era, he noted, had passed legislation ruling that Jewish children were to be surrendered to their natural families.

Shifman did refer to a case which had taken place in the Soviet Union some 20 years ago, in which a child had been kidnapped and handed over for adoption to a couple who were told the child's natural parents had died.

It took the biological parents seven years to track their child down and bring the case before the Soviet Supreme Court. The court then ruled that it would not be in the best interests of the child to reverse the adoption.

In arguing the "best interests of the child," it is the trauma of separation that is usually invoked.

The often advanced counter-argument is that in the long run, rather than in the short-term, it is the natural parents who are most likely to continue to identify with their child, and thus a restoration of the child serves the interests of both the natural parents and the child.

Justice Menahem Eilon has ordered the speedy resumption of hearings in the case.

Haim Shapiro adds:

The fact that an infant was converted to Judaism should not constitute a bar to returning it to its natural, non-Jewish, parents, nor does it necessarily mean that upon reaching maturity the child must be considered Jewish according to Halacha, an aide to Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Avraham Shapiro told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday.

Zalman Quittner explained that such a conversion, which is described as a "conversion by the rabbinical court" is by its very nature conditional. If, upon becoming an adult, the girl rejects the conversion, then it is null and void. On the other hand, even if she is returned to her natural parents, she would still have the option of retaining her Jewishness when she grows up.

Zucker tells Rabin of prison atrocities

By JOEL GREENBERG

An IDF quartermaster, serving in the reserves, dragged a bound and blindfolded teenage Palestinian prisoner across a barbed wire fence *in an attempt to cut his face at the Dahiriya prison in the West* Bank, according to a signed account by a reservist who witnessed the scene.

The eyewitness account, written by Ariel Stemker, was sent to Defence Minister Rabin by MK Dedi Zucker (Citizens Rights), who yesterday released the account to the press. Zucker called the report, which describes repeated beatings of prisoners upon arrival at Dahiriya "the most serious testimony I have seen in the last half year of what is going on in the territories."

Following are excerpts of the account, which describes events aboard a bus in which 25 bound and blindfolded Palestinian prisoners were taken to Daharyia from the Hebron military government building on April 20. The account describes several beatings aboard the bus *after arrival at Dayiriya* and continues:

"They started taking the prisoners off.. whoever got off had his head knocked against the side of the bus. A reservist from Kiryat Arba beat with a plastic electric cable, and his friend was equipped with plastic handcuffs. They were beating constantly, between the legs and all over the body. There was a captain there the whole time who did not intervene. The beating continued constantly, and the quartermaster joined in enthusiastically.

"There was a very young boy there, aged 12 to 15. I tried to protect him. When they took him off, I told the quartermaster, be careful he's just a boy. He ignored me and began "smearing" him on the barbed wire fence, throwing him on the fence in order to wound him.

I said something to him, but he disregarded me, picked up the boy *by the hair and by the pants, lifted him up in the air and tried to cut his* face on the fence. I screamed at him, he was shocked, and left him alone."

Stemker says he was criticized by other reservists for screaming at the quartermaster. He was told that his actions showed the Arabs "that we are divided," and the quartermaster threatend to get back at him.

Stemker says a quartermaster corps officer told him: "You want to be a bleeding heart, not here." Later, he said, "everyone began beating them as much as they could."

Stemker writes that prisoners were clubbed as they were led into the prison. "I accompanied the boy the whole time to protect him. When I couldn't accompany him any more, the quartermaster jumped on the *boy, grabbed him and smashed him full force into a wall.* The boy was crying and screaming in pain. The quartermaster added a strong kick in the ribs, and a warden clubbed him on the back. When he fell they waited for him to stand up and beat him.

Defence sources told Zucker that the Military Police have begun an investigation of the incident.

Senior Egyptian official charges:

Treaty 'undermines peace'

ELAINE RUTH FLETCHER
and Itim

CAIRO – The Israel-Egypt peace treaty of 1979 "is not a peace treaty," a senior Egyptian *official* was quoted as saying in an interview published yesterday. "It *undermines peace because it is a partial* agreement leading to a partial peace."

But the head of the Palestine Desk at the Egyptian Foreign Ministry, Taha El-Farnawany, interviewed yesterday in Cairo, denied that he had made the statement. He said: "Certainly, it is an Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty. But we need to settle all problems. We need to have a comprehensive peace. We can never consider the treaty of 1979 as having settled everything."

Foreign Ministry sources yesterday said that the ministry is considering seeking "clarifications" from the Egyptian government about El-Farnawany's statements.

In the interview in the Lebanese weekly, *A-Sabua el-Arabi*, El-Farnawany was quoted as saying that "Egypt does not support a mutual peace treaty *if it does not bring* about a comprehensive peace settlement."

El-Farnawany was also quoted as saying that Egypt is in constant touch with the heads of the uprising in the territories and supports it. He said that there is a new proposal to set up a PLO office in El-Arish in order to aid the Gaza Strip inhabitants, "and Israel has no right to object to the establishment of this *office.*"

In the interview here yesterday with *The Post*, however, El-Farnawany said that Egypt has "never agreed to the establishment of a PLO office in El-Arish." He added that Egypt is "backing the *intifada*, which is a national liberation movement. The Palestinians spent more than 20 years seeking a peaceful solution to their problem. The main thing is to have the withdrawal of Israeli troops from the West Bank and Gaza and to give the Palestinians self-determination. Whatever they decide, we will ac*cept it – be it an independent state,* confederation with Jordan or confederation with Israel."

El-Farnawany said that the uprising was not a passing phenomenon but the beginning of a revolution because the Palestinians could no longer tolerate the occupation.

"The *intifada* was necessary because, I believe, efforts to get a political compromise will not result in positive results. It is the only way to reach a political compromise. We *have warned Israel repeatedly that* the Egyptian people will not give up its good relations with its brother Arabs because of its relations with Israel."

He said that Egypt publishes monthly news bulletins on the Palestinian problem. "Israel is hurt by the information we publish, but this is *not important to us because we want* to maintain our credibility with foreign ambassadors. The Palestinian people needs Arab backing, because the Jews of the world aid Israel by exercising pressure in the countries where they live."

El-Farnawany related that he and Lutfi Khuli, the secretary general of the Egyptian Committee of Support for the *intifada*, had agreed to "align stands on the governmental and popular levels," and that he had advised on how to help the uprising through Unrwa.

He added that it was a "mistake *to believe that Labour was more* moderate than the Likud because [Labour leader Shimon] Peres recently reiterated his 'noes' [regarding negotiating with the PLO and the establishment of a Palestinian state]....If Israel has the right to make Soviet participation in an international conference conditional on the granting of exit visas to Jews, we have a right to demand that the U.S. conduct negotiations with the PLO."

El-Farnawany *said that he* perceived a hardening of Israel's stands and said he hoped that PLO chairman Yasser Arafat would soon visit Egypt,"to coordinate stands."

Mubarak Awad wants to meet George Shultz

By ANDY COURT
Jerusalem Post Reporter
and Agencies

Palestinian civil disobedience advocate Mubarak Awad said yesterday that he would like to meet with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz during the secretary's visit here next week.

Awad, still waiting to hear the High Court of Justice's decision about the deportation order against him, spoke to reporters in Jerusalem Magistrates Court, where he was testifying in the NIS-150,000 libel suit he has brought against the *Ma'ariv* newspaper.

In a four-page affadavit, Awad denied charges raised in a May 13 article in *Ma'ariv* by reporter Ilan Bachar that he had extensive contacts with PLO figures while in the U.S. and had dealt in drugs and donated the proceeds to the PLO.

Interior Ministry knows nothing about funding for Arab newspapers

By ASHER WALLFISH
Post Knesset Correspondent

The Interior Ministry, which is responsible for granting permits for the publication of newspapers and magazines, has no information about the sources of funding of the Arabic-language newspapers in East *Jerusalem, nor does it collect such* information.

The Knesset Interior Committee heard this yesterday from the deputy director-general of the ministry, Ya'acov Markovitch, when committee chairman Dov Shilansky charged that the PLO finances all the East Jerusalem press, to have a convenient vehicle for incitement against Israel and the Jewish people.

Shilansky was incensed when Markovitch said that the East Jerusalem papers earn some revenue from government advertisements and notices. He said: "Official notices should not be inserted in their newspapers! There is no reason the taxpayer should help keep terrorist media afloat!"

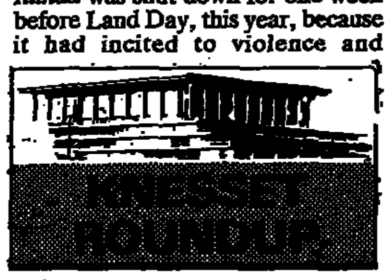
Markovitch said that the Interior Minister had closed three publications in East Jerusalem during the past 20 years, after concluding there were reasonable grounds for assuming that the three had links with *terror organizations.*

In 1986 he shut down two Arabic-language papers, *Al-Ahd* (The *Oath) and Al-Mithaq* (The Covenant). This year he shut down *Al-Awda* (The Return) which appeared in Arabic and English *editions*. A petition against the closure of *Derech Hanitzotz* (The Way of the Spark), which was published in both Arabic and Hebrew, is pending in the High Court of Justice.

Markovitch said some 20 Arabic-language dailies, weeklies and monthlies are currently printed in Israel.

"*Since the demise of Al-Anba*, none of these papers reflects the government point of view," he said.

Shilansky's Likud colleague, Ovadia Eli, asked Markovitch whether the Israel Communist Party newspaper *Al-Ittihad* (Unity) had ties with Fatah. The official replied that *Al-Ittihad* was shut down for one week before Land Day, this year, because it had incited to violence and



claimed to be the mouthpiece of the uprising in the territories, but not because of ties with any terror organization.

He said the Interior Minister could close a publication on the basis of either the Press Ordinance or the Emergency Regulations. *Al-Ittihad* did not apply to the High Court *against* the closure order issued against it (as did *Al-Ahd* and *Al-Mithaq* – in vain), he said.

250 die on roads since carnage probe proposal

Two hundred and fifty Israelis have died on the roads, and 10,000 have been injured, since the Knesset's *abortive decision* six months ago to set up a parliamentary commission of enquiry into the carnage on the nation's highways.

Alignment MK Micha Harish made this charge yesterday in a letter to Speaker Shlomo Hillel, putting the blame at the door of the House Committee, which was supposed to determine the composition of the committee.

Hillel promised Harish to take up the matter urgently this week.

Harish is understood to be willing to take the House Committee to the High Court of Justice if it fails to form the parliamentary enquiry committee within a matter of days.

Spot checks for gov't offices handling public

Government offices handling the public will in future be subject to *spot checks by joint teams from the* Knesset State Control Committee and the Civil Service Commission, to see whether the clerks are polite and efficient or just giving the applicants a runaround, the State Control Committee decided yesterday.

Committee chairman Prof. David Liba'i said the public was invited to send him letters of comment and complaint about the service they got at government offices, and the committee would see they got to the right address for immediate investigation.

The public should write to him at the Knesset, he said, care of the State Control Committee.

The committee decided on the spot checks after hearing very serious strictures about clerks' attitudes to the public in government offices from the outgoing state comptroller, Ya'acov Maltz.

Taking time off from the crisis in the health system to visit the Hebrew University library yesterday, Finance Minister Moshe Nissim examines manuscripts, including one written by his late father, former Sephardi chief rabbi Yitzhak Nissim.

(Yossi Zamir: Scoop 80)

News in brief

POLICE discovered cassettes and leaflets allegedly containing anti-Israel propaganda and seditious material during a raid on Sunday on the offices of the Islamic Movement's weekly newspaper *A-Sirat* (The Paths) in Umm el-Fahm. The two editors of the Moslem fundamentalist paper were detained for questioning and later released on bail. A police spokesman confirmed that 29 cassettes, dozens of leaflets and other material had been confiscated and were being examined.

David Rudge

AN EGGED BUS was stoned last night as it was travelling on the Tel Aviv-Jerusalem highway past Abu Ghosh. The windshield was shattered but no one was hurt. Police undertook a search for the attackers.

THE JERUSALEM police are investigating a fire that was set in a storage room of the Education Ministry's offices on Rehov Shivtei Yisrael early yesterday morning. The fire caused damage *but no injuries.* Fire investigators determined that it was arson.

AUSTRALIAN JEWISH communities have stepped up their efforts to encourage South African Jews to move there, apparently with some success, according to the head of the Jewish Agency Aliya Department, Uri Gordon. He said that the communities were publishing ads in South African newspapers promising Jewish housing loans, Jewish education for their children and temporary use of a car for their initial period of "absorption."

Charles Hoffman

IN A LANDMARK decision yesterday, the Tel Aviv District Court ruled that families can claim child support from the National Insurance Institute if the father is resident in the Soviet Union. The case was presented by Na'amat's legal department on behalf of a plaintiff named Shaulova, who was awarded NIS-700 a month in child support.

Andy Goldberg

THE LIKUD yesterday failed once again to persuade the religious parties to back its move to hold local elections simultaneously with the Knesset election.

Michal Yudelman

SOCIAL AFFAIRS Minister Moshe Katsav took a bold step yesterday and won the Knesset plenum's attention as he confidently fielded a series of unscheduled questions on his ministry's work. Katzav, perhaps having heard from his ministerial colleagues that the Knesset was in no mood to listen to long reports on the various ministries, which have all been making their pitch in recent weeks, decided on the last minute to throw away his speech.

Dvorah Getzler

AT THE FESTIVAL

By BENJAMIN BAR-AM
Post Music Critic

The Carmina Quartet (Switzerland) Tel Aviv Museum, May 30: Haydn, String Quartet No. 1 in C Major Opus 74; Ravel, String Quartet in G Major; Schubert, String Quartet in B Minor, Death and the Maiden.

This string quartet was founded in 1984, *and its members are all young,* enthusiastic, and incredibly dedicated. Their achievements are already more than formidable: wonderful communication with each other, remarkable sensitivity to the music, and a really astonishing togetherness.

In the Haydn, there was refreshing joyousness, each of the waltzes standing out in potent clarity and accuracy of intonation. Ravel's music turned into poetry, evoking hidden imageries and fantasies. Superb indeed. Schubert spread gloom and agony. Darkness and a feeling of *approaching death seemed to engulf* us. Bravo Carmina!

By DORA SOWDEN

Guitarist Paco de Lucia has done it again. Last night at Binyenei Ha'uma, he transported a full house into a trance of pleasure with his playing, earning near-hysterical applause. There were seven musicians in all, one of whom turned out to be a real flamenco singer and another one a dancer, said to be a teacher of Antonio Gades himself, and certainly a man who knew how to bring his flamenco to a climax.

LATE SPORT

BASKETBALL – The Boston Celtics outlasted the Detroit Pistons last night in Detroit, 79-78, to even the NBA Eastern Conference final series at two games apiece.

Beersheba 'ghost' stones houses and cars

Jerusalem Post Reporter

BEERSHEBA – Ghosts in England traditionally occupy suits of armour, and American goblins take the form of headless horsemen, so it may be only fitting that a ghost suspected of haunting this town, situated between Gaza and the West Bank, should rain stones on cars.

Every night for over a week, sticks and stones have crashed down on apartment windows and vehicles in Beersheba's Dalet quarter, a rough-and-tumble neighbourhood even at the best of times.

"The noises start at one in the morning, and go on until four," a Dalet resident said yesterday. "It sounds as if someone is throwing solar water heaters off the roof."

Some Negev residents may be taking the haunting tales lightly, but not so the detective division of the local police. "I wouldn't say we believe in ghosts," remarked a tired detective yesterday, "but we simply don't have a better explanation. We've had a building on Rehov Ramban under surveillance night and day, and we don't have a clue as to who is reponsible."

Shaare Zedek Medical Centre, Jerusalem

The Maternity and Gynecology Dept.

THE DEPARTMENT HAS REOPENED – maternity ward and gynecology cases.

Today we lay you to rest where you belong, in Jerusalem

TUVIA BIELSKI

A hero amongst his people

Lilly Ruth, Mickey, Aviva, Robert, Elana, Sharon, Brendon, and Jordan

In unusually frank interview with BBC

Former Moscow party boss slams hardliner

MOSCOW (Reuter) – Former Moscow Communist party chief Boris Yeltsin, dismissed from his post last November after criticizing the Soviet leadership over the pace of reform, yesterday called for the replacement of Kremlin ideology chief Yegor Ligachev.

Yeltsin, who was speaking in an interview with BBC-TV, also said he had been upset that Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev had not come to his defence after his sacking.

Asked if it would be possible for Ligachev, regarded as a conservative in the Communist party's ruling Politburo, to remain at his post if Gorbachev's campaign for social, economic and political reform was to succeed, Yeltsin replied: "It is up to the central committee. But, of course it would be possible to develop the process more actively with someone else in that post." Pressed on whether he thought Ligachev should be removed, Yeltsin was adamant. "Yes," he declared.

He said he remained an active supporter of Gorbachev, whose views were closely linked with his own. But he expressed disappointment that the Soviet leader had not spoken up for him since the Moscow party committeee voted to remove him. "I am upset," he said. And referring to Gorbachev, he added: "He feels this. I told him I am not satisfied in my present work."

After his dismissal, Yeltsin was appointed first deputy minister for construction. He was also stripped of his candidate (non-voting) membership of the Politburo and last week was also formally removed from the presidium of the Supreme Soviet (parliament).

The interview, which a BBC spokesman said had been arranged "through official channels," took place at Yeltsin's office at the Construction Ministry.

Analysts said it was unlikely Yeltsin would have made such controversial remarks to a non-Soviet news organization unless he had some intimation the comments would not be unacceptable to Gorbachev and his reformist colleagues in the leadership. The startlingly frank reference to Ligachev, the analysts added, could suggest that Yeltsin was privy to inside information indicating that the ideological chief's position was already in question.

Yeltsin looked calm and relaxed during the interview. Dressed in a light-grey suit with white shirt and brown tie, he smiled frequently, but appeared to be giving serious consideration to every question.

He said he would want to return to a more active role in politics, but added that it would be unrealistic to discuss the possibility of his making a comeback.

Asked why he had singled out Ligachev for criticism, he said: "I have to say it straight. He is one of the opponents of issues of change in social justice."

Ahmed Tebalo, centre, captain of the Syrian freighter Zanubia, goes ashore in Genoa on Sunday. (AFP)

New chapter in the 'ship of poison' saga

GENOA (AP) – Port officials yesterday delayed the unloading of the so-called "ship of poison" until the approximately 12,000 drums of toxic chemical wastes can be checked and chemically analyzed.

Meanwhile, four crewmen aboard the Syrian freighter Zanubia were treated at a hospital for nausea and stomach pains possibly caused by months of exposure to its toxic cargo.

The ship also was moved Monday to a more isolated quay after *hundreds of port workers* walked off their jobs to protest the smell and fumes spreading from the Zanubia. Unions for the workers said the protest prevented the unloading of seven other freighters. They said work would not resume until the Zanubia was moved to a more isolated part of the port.

Ahmed Tebalo, the captain of the Zanubia, claimed some of the drums of unidentified chemical waste are damaged and may be leaking chemicals. Port sources said Monday that checking the drums and repacking the damaged containers could take several weeks.

The Zanubia is the last of three freighters used to ship the more than 2,000 metric tons of unidentified waste from Italian chemical companies to ports in Djibouti, Venezuela, Syria, *Greece and then back to Italy.*

Three of the crewmen examined at the hospital Monday were released, but one was admitted for observation, doctors at San Martino Hospital said. Five crewmen also were hospitalized earlier this month with symptoms possibly caused by exposure to the wastes.

Lawyers for the ship owner, Tabalo Shipping, say two people have died, possibly after being contaminated by the wastes – a boy in Venezuela and a Zanubia crewman during the voyage to Italy.

The cargo originally was shipped from the port at the northern Italy city of Carrara in February 1987. The Zanubia brought it back to that port on April 26, but was forced to anchor outside the harbor and was not allowed to unload the cargo.

Giuseppe Francese, the port commissioner in Genoa, decided last week that the Zanubia could unload in Genoa. He said it was the only Italian port that could safely unload and incinerate the chemicals.

Francesco *Rizzuto, a lawyer* for Tabalo Shipping, said a group of Italian chemical companies paid the Milan-based company Jelly Wax 1,000 lire (about 80 cents) a kilogram (2.2 pounds) to dispose of the waste. *He said the company instead* shipped the waste out of the country.

The first ship took it to Djibouti and then to Venezuela, were it was unloaded. But Rizzuto said that after a young boy *died*, reportedly after playing near an opened drum, the government ordered the wastes shipped out of the country. It was loaded on a second ship which was bound for Syria, where it was transferred to the Zanubia. That ship made one stop in Greece before it took the wastes back to Carrera.

Schoolgirls wave U.S. and Soviet flags as they welcome Nancy Reagan to their school yesterday morning. (Reuter)

Nancy Reagan gets grilling from Moscow schoolchildren

MOSCOW (AP) – First Lady Nancy Reagan defended U.S. students and their study habits yesterday when she got a grilling at a mini-press conference with Soviet children at a prestigious Moscow junior high school.

"Do American children learn Russian?" asked one child in Russian as Mrs. Reagan fielded questions during an hour-long visit to School No. 29. All children at the school, which caters primarily to the children of high officials and Soviet intelligentsia, begin to study English at the age of eight.

Mrs. Reagan, clearly aware that most Russian language studies in the U.S. are in high school and college, responded, "No, they don't." But then she parried, "Do all the Soviet children in every school here study English?"

The children immediately broke out in loud argument, many insisting that, indeed, all Soviet children do learn English.

Mrs. Reagan was seated at the head of the class as one child at a time popped up and asked a question, some in English, some in Russian, about whether U.S. children wear school uniforms, play football and baseball and have a game like "hide and seek."

The first lady, who remembered with a chuckle that she had learned several Russian words, responded "Yes, yes, I mean, da, da," at one point.

But she flunked a pronunciation test when the children tried to get her to say the Russian words for peace, earth and sun – mir, zemlya and solnsa – throwing up her hands in exasperation.

The 35 children from the first-grade English class entertained the first lady by singing such favourites as "Yankee Doodle," "Do Re Mi," and "School Days."

"I'm very impressed - spacibo - thank you," Mrs. Reagan said as she accepted a box of pictures painted by the students.

The first lady made a favourable impression, said some of the youngsters gathered outside the school, and many noted that the authorities had spent two weeks cleaning and painting the school in preparation for the visit.

"She has a very good smile, that is very important," said Ann Kaslovskaya, a 15-year-old student at the school.

After the school visit, Mrs. Reagan was driven about 22 km. outside town to the wooded retreat Peredelkino, where she paid a brief visit to the grave of Boris Pasternak. Reporters were not allowed to view Mrs. Reagan's visit, which came on the 28th anniversary of Pasternak's death.

The author of "Dr. Zhivago," Pasternak was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1958, but his fame provoked a bitter official campaign against him. He was forced to reject the award, and returned to his dacha in Peredelkino where he died in 1960.

The first lady remained in the wooded suburb to have lunch with Andrei Voznesensky, an official poet who is widely published in the Soviet Union. Voznesensky, who spoke with reporters, said he was pleased to have the first lady at his home so that she could get an understanding of Soviet culture and "something strange – the Slavic soul."

Paris says military erred in New Caledonia shoot-out

PARIS (Reuter) – French Defence Minister Jean-Pierre Chevenement said yesterday that French troops had acted wrongly during the bloody ending of a siege in New Caledonia and those involved would be severely punished.

Chevenement said mediation efforts had not been exhausted before former prime minister Jacques Chirac ordered the military intervention in the South Pacific territory on May 5, in which 19 Melanesian separatists and two French soldiers were killed.

"All those who may have stained the honour of the army will be mercilessly pursued. They will be severely punished," Chevenement told reporters.

Troops armed with guns and grenades freed 23 French hostages held in a cave by the separatists, three days before Chirac, the conservative challenger, lost to Socialist Francois Mitterrand in a presidential election. The new government promptly announced an investigation.

Chevenement said only a small number of the commando group which attacked the jungle cave on the French-ruled island had acted wrongly. He refused to go into details of their misconduct, but said the officer in charge of evacuating the kidnappers from the scene of the assault had been suspended. He did not name him.

Ethnic Melanesian separatists in New Caledonia contend that two of the kidnappers were murdered in cold blood after surrendering. They say the kidnappers' leader, Alphonse Dianou, was allowed to bleed to death after being evacuated from the cave.

Chevenement indicated Dianou's death lay at the heart of the problem, saying "there are some obscure points after the evacuation of Dianou."

The army had previously denied any misconduct, saying difficult terrain and the refusal of the kidnappers to surrender were responsible for the high death toll.

Kanak (ethnic Melanesian) sources say Dianou's drip-feed was ripped out and he was allowed to bleed to death. A published photograph showed him lying on a stretcher after evacuation with no sign of a drip-feed.

'Marlin and Gennady Show' turns from comedy to drama

MOSCOW (Reuter) – Drama has replaced comedy in this year's production of "The Marlin and Gennady Show," those joint news conferences by the two best known superpower spokesmen.

Last December in Washington, at their first joint appearance, White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater and Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady Gerasimov traded jokes and quips like a well-rehearsed music hall team.

But in their Moscow debut on Sunday, Gerasimov quickly set a competitive tone as he started briefing reporters on the first day of this year's summit between President Ronald Reagan and Kremlin Chief Mikhail Gorbachev.

Noticing that Fitzwater was fumbling with a translation device, Gerasimov jokingly complained: "You're not listening."

"As soon as I master the technology, I'll be with you," the U.S. official shot back.

The news conference then turned into a sparring match on human rights – a highly contentious issue at the summit. After Fitzwater said human rights had "pride of place" in Americans' hearts, Gerasimov said the Soviets would prefer a "businesslike discussion" to sensationalism and propaganda.

"We know about our shortcomings in this area and we want to correct them... But we don't like it when someone from outside tries to teach us how to live," the Kremlin official said. "It is natural that we don't like it when we are treated like schoolchildren," he added, referring to recent Reagan speeches criticizing Kremlin policy.

Gerasimov also took aim at Reagan's plan yesterday to host a reception for Soviet dissidents and Jews refused permission to emigrate. "The Soviet people might be surprised at who he has invited to that meeting," he said.

Gerasimov's toughest blast came when a Nicaraguan reporter complained that U.S. policy toward his country was anti-human rights.

Fitzwater responded that U.S. support for the Contra rebels was designed to give the Nicaraguan people "an opportunity to express their desire for democracy" and to force Managua to live up to its commitment to institute political reform. "I just want to say, in this, America appears to us like a big hypocrite," Gerasimov said.

Superpower strains were also apparent on Afghanistan with the Kremlin spokesman accusing Pakistan of violating a pact that provides for the current Soviet troop withdrawal. But Fitzwater declared Washington still expects the Soviet Union to honour its withdrawal commitment.

Beirut paper says 4 hostages may be freed soon

BEIRUT (AP) – Three American professors and an Indian educator kidnapped in Moslem West Beirut 16 months ago may be freed soon, the leftist *A-Safir* daily reported yesterday.

It cited unnamed sources close to President Amin Jemayel for its brief report, which linked the release to the deployment of Syrian troops in Beirut's southern slums to end three weeks of fighting between Shi'ite Moslem factions.

The four academics were abducted on Jan. 24 last year from the campus of the U.S.-affiliated Beirut University College by gunmen posing as policemen.

The Americans are assistant professor of business studies Robert Polhill, 53, of New York City; visiting professor of mathematics Jesse Turner, 40, of Boise, Idaho; and professor of journalism Alan Steen, 49, of Boston.

The Indian is Mithileshwar Singh, 60, professor of finance.

A group calling itself Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine claimed it kidnapped the professors. It has demanded the release of 400 Arab prisoners held by Israel. Israel has refused and President Reagan's administration has said it will not pressure Israel to change its stand.

DAVID HOROVITZ reports from London:

The three British hostages in Lebanon – church envoy Terry Waite, journalist John McCarthy and Northern Irish teacher Brian Keenan – are *alive and held captive* in Beirut's southern suburbs, according to the Franco-Lebanese negotiator who secured the release of the last three French hostages earlier this month.

In an interview with *The Independent* yesterday, Dr. Razah Raad said he had been told that the three were alive by Hizbullah officials in Beirut.

Raad said that the breakthrough in efforts to free Frenchmen Marcel Carton, Marcel Fontaine and Jean-Paul Kauffmann came when France agreed to Iran's main demand – the re-establishment of diplomatic ties between Paris and Teheran.

Were Britain to warm its token diplomatic links with Iran, prospects for the release of the three Britains would improve. Foreign Office spokesman, however, yesterday emphatically ruled out the prospect of improved ties with Iran.

ARSONISTS

(Continued from Page One)

The immediate effect of these fires will be the loss of millions of dollars in food for livestock, said Mordechai Weitz of the ministry's Land Preservation Division. Hundreds of dunams of orchards have also been scorched in the Western Galilee, he said.

Forestry officials have been aware of the problem of arson for many years but had a policy not to talk about it for fear that they would encourage even more attacks, Sachs said.

"This year, we opened up. We decided that it's impossible to tolerate this anymore," he said. The forestry officials hope to gain the public's help in fighting a crime whose perpetrators are not easily caught.

Sachs said that the arson attacks have been a continual problem and are not in his view increasing because of the Palestinian uprising.

The hot weather and abundant vegetation caused by this year's heavy rainfall have made it much more difficult for firefighters to control the fires. The blazes' devastating effects have, in turn, attracted public attention.

No fire erupts spontaneously, Sachs said. It is usually not difficult to discern cases where army training excercises, family picnics, or burning trashdumps have caused the fire, yet these causes account for only about 10 to 20 per cent of the fires set, he said.

Over the past two days, small fires broke out in several locations in and around Jerusalem – Ramot, Neve Ya'acov, Aquabella, and Moshav Aminadav. In almost all of these cases, arson is suspected, he said.

The maximum sentence for deliberately starting fires in planted areas of forests and crops is 15 years, while the maximum for arson in natural pasture land and nature preserves is only one year.

REAGAN CALL

(Continued from Page One)

signed in Washington last December.

At the Danilov Monastery, *returned by the state to the Orthodox* church in 1983 and to be the focus of celebrations next month of 1,000 years of Russian Christianity, Reagan said Americans "feel it keenly when religious freedom is denied to anyone anywhere."

Quoting exiled Soviet writer Alexander Solzhenitsyn as saying religious faith was at the heart of Russian life, the president added: "In our prayers, we may keep that image in mind – the thought that the bells may ring again, sounding throughout Moscow and across the countryside, clamouring for joy in their new-found freedom."

Soviet officials complain that Reagan is not up to date with the pace of reforms and could play into the hands of conservatives opposing Gorbachev by appearing to challenge the Kremlin leader on his home ground.

Standing before a red-and-white figured tapestry in the ornate old mansion, the president told his guests that, far from being daunted by Soviet disapproval, he wanted to urge them on in their fight for freedom of speech, religion, emigration and travel.

"I believe this is a hopeful time for your nation," he said. "Over the past three years more than 300 political and religious prisoners were released from labour camps. Fewer dissidents and believers have been put in prison and mental hospitals... "Yet the basic standard the Soviet Union agreed to almost 13 years ago in the Helsinki accords, or a generation ago in the universal declaration on human rights, still need to be met." Even before Reagan's visit to the Danilov Monastery Gorbachev indicated his disagreement with Reagan's appraisal of Soviet deficiencies.

Afterward, Gerasimov described the dissidents as "not the best of the Soviet people, rather the contrary."

But despite the pointed differences on human rights, there was no apparent tension at a glittering Kremlin dinner Gorbachev gave for the Reagans last night. The two leaders flashed smiles and chatted, occasionally laughing, as they stood next to each other in a guest receiving line in the chandeliered Hall of Facets.

Toasting Reagan, the Soviet leader called for closer contacts with Americans but said, "this should be done without interfering in domestic affairs, without sermonizing or imposing one's views and ways, without turning family or personal problems into a pretext for confrontation between states."

Reagan said the two leaders continue searching at their fourth summit for "common ground" in the U.S.-Soviet relationship, and he would advise his successor next January that "it is a search that must be continued." (Reuter, AP)

Bogota politician dies in kidnap bid

BOGOTA (AP) – A Bogota radio station reported yesterday that a former presidential candidate who was kidnapped in a hail of submachine gunfire died of his wounds.

Four men kidnapped Alvaro Gomez Hurtado, 69, as he left church Sunday in Bogota. He was accompanied by a bodyguard, who was hit by 14 bullets and died in a hospital. A man identifying himself as one of the kidnappers told radio station *Todelar yesterday that Gomez had* died and that the kidnappers would soon reveal where the body is.

The abduction came during a wave of leftist guerrilla violence, including the kidnapping of three mayors-elect of small towns, two ambushes that left seven soldiers dead, and guerrilla attacks on two towns and an oil pipeline.

Elsewhere, 13 people were killed and 40 were wounded during a clash between army troops and a farmers' protest march, said the mayor of a small town in central Colombia. The dead included a colonel, a captain, two soldiers and nine peasants. Sap Vicente Mayor German Obando said yesterday in an interview with Bogota radio station Caracol.

Sikhs sack all their high priests

CHANDIGARH (Reuter) – Sikh religious leaders suddenly sacked all five high priests of the faith yesterday, accusing them of collusion with the Indian government, official sources said.

They said the five included the most senior Sikh priest, the head priest of the Akal Takht - the eternal throne of the Golden Temple in Amritsar, the Sikhs' holiest shrine - who exercises spiritual and *temporal authority over all Sikhs.*

The priests had been named earlier this year by Sikh militants fighting for a separate homeland and the religious leaders, members of a committee administering Sikh temples, were told by the separatists to ratify the appointments. Their dismissal is certain to further divide the fragmented Sikh community already beset by separatist violence in Punjab.

Ministry of Education and Culture Information Centre

Israel 40 ישראל

Mahal Organization

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מחנות עלייה לארץ

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A subtle diplomatic victory for Assad

The bloodless takeover of war-ravaged South Beirut by Syrian "peacekeeping" forces represents a subtle victory for Syrian President Hafez Assad and his policies of diplomatic coercion.

The massive troop deployment, ostensibly to end three weeks of vicious internecine fighting between Iranian-backed Hizbullah militiamen and supporters of the rival pro-Syrian Amal Shi'ite movement, has left Syria in a position of strength.

Some veteran Lebanese observers think Assad will now use the presence of his forces as a bargaining counter to negotiate for the release of the 18 foreign hostages believed to be held by Shi'ite extremists affiliated to the Hizbullah in the southern slums of the Lebanese capital.

They considered it highly unlikely that the Hizbullah and their Iranian masters would agree to free all the hostages. Nevertheless, the Iranians might consent to release a number of hostages as part of an overall package deal with the Syrians, said Dr. Yossi Olmert, head of the Lebanon-Syria desk of Tel Aviv University's Dayan Centre.

He noted that the hostage issue had been a crucial factor in delaying the Syrian troop deployment throughout most parts of South Beirut. "The Syrians wanted to secure the release of the hostages through their mediation and gain all the credit and prestige. That is still one of their aims," said Olmert.

He maintained that the Syrians had not "lost face" by deferring their entry into South Beirut until an agreement was reached with Iran and the Hizbullah. "What matters is the ultimate outcome and nothing else. If the Syrians succeed in pacifying South Beirut, it will offset any concessions they may have to make," Olmert asserted.

"In the meantime, Assad can feel quite pleased with the way things have gone. He has managed to deploy his troops in the southern suburbs without getting involved in a costly and potentially damaging intra-Shi'ite war and without rupturing ties with (Syria's ally) Iran. He has also demonstrated that Syria is the main power-broker in Lebanon."

ANALYSIS / David Rudge

Olmert maintained that the Islamic fundamentalists and their Iranian backers were in a difficult position, despite Hizbullah's victories over Amal in the South Beirut battles which cost the lives of nearly 300 people.

"The Hizbullah in the Beka'a Valley is under Syrian domination, while Amal controls most of South Lebanon. South Beirut was the last autonomous bastion of the Iranians and their supporters and they are now under pressure from a strategic point of view," said Olmert.

"The Syrians would be very reluctant to become involved in a confrontation with the Hizbullah and, indirectly, the Iranians, for the reasons mentioned. Nevertheless, if Syria is forced to fight it will and it can defeat the Hizbullah, although at a heavy price.

"The Iranians know this and it is, therefore, not in their interests to have Syrian troops stationed permanently in South Beirut. For those reasons I think they will have to make some concessions to the Syrians, which could involve the release of some hostages as part of an overall deal.

"I certainly don't see the Syrians pulling out of the region without some solid reward from the Iranians and the Hizbullah. In return, Syria may put pressure on Amal to allow the Hizbullah limited freedom of action in South Lebanon, although this would be a very delicate matter."

Olmert noted that America's backing for the Syrian intervention in South Beirut could indicate a possible shift in policy regarding America's attitude towards foreign forces in Lebanon.

"Negotiations are taking place between America and Syria over the future of Lebanon in the light of the forthcoming Lebanese presidential elections. Syria is pressing the U.S. to accept its role in Lebanon, while denouncing Israel's presence in South Lebanon.

"There are signs that America might adopt a policy which would countenance Syria's presence as a legitimate force for law and order," said Olmert. He added that any deal by which Syria could secure the release of some, if not all, the foreign hostages would stand it in good stead in future negotiations with the Americans.

Ze'ev (Vladimir) Dashevsky.

Ira Dashevsky's plea to Moscow:

'Let my father go'

By LISA CLAYTON

"Let the Soviets prove their *glasnost* and *perestroika* by providing a process whereby my father and the others can emigrate. Their case should be top of the list in any discussions about Soviet Jews at this week's summit conference in Moscow."

The plea comes from Ira Dashevsky, daughter of Ze'ev (Valdimir), a charismatic self-taught spiritual leader and teacher in Moscow who was among those refuseniks due to meet President Reagan yesterday.

Leader of a group of young, Orthodox Moscow Jews – many now in Israel – who have named their Jerusalem and Moscow centres of learning Mahanaim (two camps), Ze'ev Dashevsky is now running things in Moscow practically single-handed. His teaching and responsibility load is very heavy and his students voice concern that he's overburdened. Her father, says Ira, "hopes and thinks that what he does is important. Of course, his students need him but I'd prefer him to be here. His students love him, but they look forward to him leaving.

"I speak to him once a week. At the moment he gaves a daily Gemara *shiur* in Moscow's main synagogue to a group of about 10, plus other *shiurim* privately." Ira, who came to Israel a year ago, is extremely worried about Ze'ev, his wife Tatyana, and their three small children.

The two older children, she explains, are due to start school next year. It will be very hard for them since they have been brought up in an exclusively Orthodox atmosphere until now and are used to being able to wear *tzitziyot* and *kippot*, and to observing Shabbat.

"Ze'ev is a very impressive, charismatic and charming man," says Marina Kitrosky, a former student now in Israel: He is, she says, the "only leader of our group left. The teachers are leaving, but interest is growing...it's a very difficult situation."

An astrophysicist by profession – one of three Soviet members of the American Astronomical Society – 50-year-old Dashevsky has been a refusenik since 1976.

Initially denied permission to emigrate on the commonly-cited grounds of "access to secret material," the family is now denied the right to apply to emigrate because Tatyana's parents refuse to sign a document waiving her financial obligations towards them.

The Dashevskys belong to a group of refuseniks which calls itself the Poor Relations. Although it is the refuseniks' relatives who claim that they would be poverty-stricken should they free the would-be immigrants of financial obligations, it is, in fact, the refuseniks who are in a sorry state. Their common fate is the trap in which they've been caught by the refusal of family members to sign the financial obligations waiver form.

"The problem in my father's case," says Ira, who lives in Jerusalem, "is not actually a financial one. Tatyana's parents are refusing to sign the financial obligations form for ideological reasons." This despite the fact that Ira herself has formally declared that she will take responsiblity for payment of any financial obligation determined by a Soviet court of law.

Ira says that the Soviet authorities should establish a procedure for people such as her family. The refuseniks should have recourse to a court of law where a ruling can be made on the amount of money that the financial obligation involves; a sum could be settled upon and the trapped family would then be able to apply to emigrate.

Ira has been to the U.S. twice in the last year to campaign for her father and the other Poor Relations. She has discussed their case with lawyers there who, in turn, are consulting with Soviet lawyers. It is only through such legal action, along with campaigning by groups in Israel and abroad – Kibbutz Ein Tzurim have taken up Dashevsky's case and campaign vigorously on his behalf – that she sees any chance of aliya for the group.

The commonly-used 'access to secrets' justification for refusal to emigrate, says Ira, is "less problematic" than that of financial obligations since there is no apparent solution to the latter at present.

How many Jews, she wonders, don't even bother applying because they know they'll be trapped by family members refusing to sign the financial obligations disclaimer.

RABBIS SLAM

(Continued from Page One)

Shapiro said that the autonomy of the chief rabbinate in matters of Halacha was agreed upon before the establishment of the state. It was this agreement which made it possible for the rabbis to cooperate in the institutions of the pre-state Jewish community.

Shapiro admitted that the decision of the Chief Rabbinical Council was not legally binding. But he added that if Religious Affairs Minister Zevulun Hammer asked Shapiro what to do in the matter of Lea Shakdiel, the chief rabbi would tell Hammer to request a rehearing, with an expanded bench, in the High Court.

Hammer, in an effort to circumvent the High Court decision, is to propose a law which would create women's committees, which would function in conjuction with the all-male religious councils.

In reaction to Hammer's proposal, Shakdiel yesterday told *The Post* that since the religious affairs minister had already committed himself to naming her to the Yeroham religious council, she assumed that his proposal would be in addition to her right, or that of any other woman, to belong to the religious council itself.

Seen in that light, Shakdiel said, she could only view Hammer's proposal as a positive one, since it would serve to highlight the importance of women's thinking in these matters. She added that the proposal was not a new one and had been put forward under former religious affairs minister MK Yosef Burg.

As for the Chief Rabbinical Council's resolution, Shakdiel said she was not qualified to comment on its legal aspects, but she added that in their decision, the justices had shown great sensitivity to the chief rabbinate and explained at length why the High Court decided as it did despite this sensitivity. She also pointed out that the Religious Councils Law made no reference to the Chief Rabbinical Council.

Concerning the possible unwillingness of Tora sages to sit with women on religious councils, she cited the view of Rabbi Yehuda Leib Zlotnick (Avida), the Mizrahi leader, who in 1919 had stated that he understood the unwillingness of Hassidim to sit with women on public bodies, but he did not understand why the Hassidim felt that it was up to the women and not the Hassidim themselves to retire from public life.

Regarding the election of the Ashkenazi chief rabbi of Tel Aviv, a post that has been vacant since the late incumbent, Yedidya Fraenkel, died in September, 1986, the two chief rabbis said that they would call in Tel Aviv Deputy Mayor Haim Basok, who is in charge of the election, and discuss the issue with him.

They implied that they would tell him that if he had no choice but to include a woman in the electing body, he should do so.

"We will have to judge which is worse, including a woman or leaving Tel Aviv without [an Ashkenazi] chief rabbi. After all, it is not like a religious council where there are regular meetings week after week," Shapiro said.

Andy Goldberg adds:

Netanya Chief Rabbi Yisrael Lau, seen as the major contender for the post of Tel Aviv chief rabbi, yesterday confirmed that he expected to be in the race. He has said in the past that he would follow the advice of the chief rabbis as to whether to submit his candidacy to an electoral body which included a woman.

Flamenco at the Festival – *'Ole!'*

By LEV BEARFIELD
Jerusalem Post Reporter

"When people shout *'Ole!'* in Denmark, that means one thing," Spanish guitarist Paco De Lucia remarked to the press yesterday, "and when they shout *'Ole!'* in Seville, it naturally means something else."

Nobody wanted to tell the visitor that when Israelis shout *"Ole!"* they're probably just expressing astonishment at the arrival of a new immigrant. But the Spanish cry of acclaim will no doubt greet De Lucia's flamenco programme as lustily here as it has around the world.

"Performing in Seville, though," De Lucia said, "is a special challenge, since a good 10 per cent of the audience is likely to be flamenco musicians themselves. If you can win an audience there, you can succeed anywhere."

De Lucia has a long history of winning. By age 12 he had reaped a top prize for guitarists in his native Spain, and within a year he had toured the U.S. and won a recording contract. Today at 40, he is at the top of his profession not only in flamenco music, but in jazz as well.

"It was a particular challenge to work with jazz artists like Chick Corea, John McLaughlin, Larry Coryell and Al Dimiola," De Lucia said. "I had reached a point where I felt I'd gone about as far as I could in traditional Spanish music. I wasn't inclined to study formally – I've never done that – and then someone suggested that I play with jazz improvisers. So I tried it. I never had to work so hard in my life. It was a whole new way of conceiving of harmonies and chords.

Israel Festival 1988

His jazz experience, De Lucia said, is clearly evident in his flamenco programmes, where spontaneous variation on traditional motifs is by now second nature to him. "Some flamenco purists may complain, but all of the younger flamenco artists have moved in this direction," he noted with satisfaction.

Did De Lucia believe musicians should convey political messages?

"Ninety-nine per cent of the protest singers I've heard were protesters and not singers," he said emphatically. "There were also a lot of artists in Spain who got rich by 'protesting' against Franco. Naturally, as a person who lives in society, I have opinions. But when I play my guitar, the music alone is my message."

Ole!

At the festival today:

The Bulgarian women's choir programme is sold out.

Free street performances in Jerusalem include The Suiciders Street Theatre production of *The Monster* at the Ben-Yehuda pedestrian the mall at 1 p.m. and 5 p.m.; the dance-movement performance *From Afar* on the western slope of Mt. Zion at 2 p.m. and 6 p.m.; *Birds Hanging in the Square* (the free bus leaves the Henry Crown Plaza at 6:45 p.m.); the Tara Group's *Hupat-Dodim* at the Henry Crown Plaza at 7:15 p.m.; The Rag Group's *The Repast* at Zion Square at 6 p.m.; Yossi Zemah's *The Hill and the Sand of its Shadow on the Talpiot Promenade* at 5 p.m.; the Youth Orchestra at the Hyatt Park at 6 p.m.; *The Acrobat from Vitebsk* at David's Citadel at 7:45 p.m.

Former Attorney General Yitzhak Zamir (far right) said he was "worried" about the future of Israeli democracy. But former UN ambassador Binyamin Netanyahu (not shown) expressed complete confidence that Israel's "fractious and fraternal" democratic fabric would survive. The two were among the participants at a Hebrew University of Jerusalem symposium yesterday on "Democratic Leadership in Crisis." Other participants included (from left to right) U.S. Congresswoman Constance Morella (R-Md.), programme sponsor Fred Schwartz, Congressman Howard Berman (D-Calif), MK Haim Ramon (Labour), and Congressman Tony Coelho (D-Calif). The colloquium was sponsored by the Raoul Wallenberg Scholarship Programme at the university's Rothberg School for Overseas Students. Schwartz, of New York, donated the funds for the programme and accompanied the congressmen to Israel. (Scoop 80)

Call for sanctions to help Syrian Jews

by MICHEL ZLOTOWSKI

PARIS – Representatives of 18 Jewish communities of the Western world called yesterday in Paris for economic sanctions against Syria. The resolution asked western leaders not to visit Syria and to take sanctions against Damascus as long as President Hafez Assad does not allow Syrian Jews to emigrate freely.

Messages were sent to Ronald Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev in Moscow, asking them to put the situation of the Syrian Jews on their agenda.

UNITED MIZRAHI BANK LTD AND ITS SUBSIDIARIES

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 1988
ADJUSTED FOR INFLATIONARY EFFECTS AS PER MARCH 1988 INDEX
(IN THOUSANDS U.S. DOLLARS)

	31.3.88 (UNAUDITED)	31.12.87* (AUDITED)
CASH ON HAND AND DEPOSITS WITH CENTRAL BANKS	470,247	442,466
DEPOSITS WITH BANKS	367,837	431,610
SECURITIES	503,498	519,957
LOANS TO THE GOVERNMENT	832,431	872,978
LOANS TO THE PUBLIC	4,059,651	4,086,911
BUILDINGS AND EQUIPMENT	133,090	137,200
OTHER ASSETS	116,352	228,021
	6,583,106	6,819,143

	31.3.88 (UNAUDITED)	31.12.87* (AUDITED)
DEPOSITS FROM THE PUBLIC	3,110,271	3,133,705
DEPOSITS FROM BANKS	347,206	435,244
DEPOSITS FOR LOAN PURPOSES	2,154,257	2,151,037
NON CONVERTIBLE DEBENTURES, NOTES, DEFERRED NOTES, AND DEFERRED CAPITAL NOTES ISSUED BY SUBSIDIARIES	638,331	650,700
OTHER LIABILITIES	38,639	148,040
TOTAL LIABILITIES	6,288,704	6,518,726
DEFERRED NOTES AND DEBENTURES ISSUED BY SUBSIDIARIES CONVERTIBLE INTO THEIR SHARES	28	8,537
OUTSIDE SHAREHOLDERS' INTEREST	54,769	55,305
DEFERRED CAPITAL NOTES	6,185	6,502
SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY	233,420	230,073
	6,583,106	6,819,143

BALANCES OF A BANKING SUBSIDIARY OF "TEFAHOT" ISRAEL MORTGAGE BANK LTD. WHOSE SHARES WERE SOLD DURING THE PERIOD OF THESE FINANCIAL REPORTS, HAVE BEEN RECLASSIFIED FROM VARIOUS ITEMS AND INCLUDED AS FOLLOWS: U.S. DOLLARS 108,922 THOUSANDS IN ITEM "OTHER ASSETS" – U.S. DOLLARS 107,022 THOUSANDS IN ITEM 'OTHER LIABILITIES'.

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT PROFIT AND LOSS
FOR THE PERIOD FROM 1 JANUARY 1988 UNTIL 31 MARCH 1988
ADJUSTED FOR INFLATIONARY EFFECTS AS PER MARCH 1988 INDEX (UNAUDITED)
(IN THOUSANDS U.S. DOLLARS)

	FOR 3 MONTHS ENDING ON 31 MARCH 1988	1987
OPERATING PROFIT BEFORE TAXATION	10,679	11,579
PROVISION FOR TAXES ON OPERATING PROFIT	5,306	5,176
OPERATING PROFIT AFTER TAXATION	5,373	6,403
GROUP'S SHARE IN UNAPPROPRIATED PROFIT (LOSSES) OF UNCONSOLIDATED SUBSIDIARIES AND AFFILIATES	(188)	(194)
	5,185	6,209
OUTSIDE SHAREHOLDERS' INTEREST	388	1,452
	4,797	4,757
LOSS FROM EXTRAORDINARY TRANSACTIONS, NET, AFTER RELATED TAXES	422	2,263
NET PROFIT	4,375	2,494

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY
FOR THE PERIOD FROM 1 JANUARY 1988 UNTIL 31 MARCH 1988
ADJUSTED FOR INFLATIONARY EFFECTS AS PER MARCH 1988 INDEX (UNAUDITED)
(IN THOUSANDS U.S. DOLLARS)

	FOR 3 MONTHS ENDING ON 31 MARCH 1988			1987		
	SHARE CAPITAL AND PREMIUM	SURPLUS (LOSSES)	TOTAL SHARE-HOLDERS' EQUITY	SHARE CAPITAL AND PREMIUM	SURPLUS (LOSSES)	TOTAL SHARE-HOLDERS' EQUITY
SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY AT BEGINNING OF PERIOD	306,164	(76,091)	230,073	306,164	(81,934)	224,230
NET PROFIT FOR THE PERIOD		4,375	4,375		2,494	2,494
ADJUSTMENTS RESULTING FROM TRANSLATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF SUBSIDIARIES ABROAD		(1,028)	(1,028)		1,464	1,464
INTEREST ON LIABILITIES CONVERTIBLE INTO SHARES					(37)	(37)
SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY AT END OF PERIOD	306,164	(72,744)**	233,420	306,164	(78,013)**	228,151

** THE LOSSES AT THE END OF THE PERIOD INCLUDE ADJUSTMENTS RESULTING FROM TRANSLATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF SUBSIDIARIES ABROAD TOTALLING U.S. DOLLARS 17,818 THOUSANDS (31.3.87 – U.S. DOLLARS 10,719 THOUSANDS).

ALL THE FIGURES WERE TRANSLATED AT A RATE OF U.S. $1 = NIS. 1.5596

THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS WERE PREPARED ACCORDING TO THE SAME RULES OF ACCOUNTING BY WHICH THE AUDITED REPORTS OF 31.12.87 WERE PREPARED.

Law professors demand Arab-Jewish equality

By LEA LEVAVI
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV – Twenty professors from the Law Faculties of Tel Aviv and Hebrew Universities have signed a petition demanding equal treatment for Jews and Arabs and expressing concern about the legal situation in the territories.

"We are especially concerned about the development of two systems of law, and two systems of investigation and trial – one for Jews and another for Arabs," they state. "This causes unjustifiable discrimination and in a case where both Jews and Arabs are involved in an incident, as in the case of Kfar Beita, the results can be intolerable. We call for the immediate implementation of a legal system which enforces the same principles of criminal responsibility, without regard to the perpetrator's national origins."

The petition also decries the large number of cases of administrative detention and the closing of newspapers and magazines, and calls for the human rights of all residents of the territories to be respected and guaranteed.

The petition is not being sent to anyone because, in the words of one of its organizers, Dr. Yoram Shahar, "sending it to the Israeli government collectively is a hopeless case." He and his colleagues hope, however, that it will be widely publicized (though they lack the funds for paid ads) and will arouse public opinion.

Police in territories will have to wear name tags

By DVORAH GETZLER

Border Police and other police forces operating in the West Bank and Gaza Strip will have to wear name tags identifying them to the local population, and the Israel Police have taken steps to see that this order is obeyed, Police Minister Haim Bar-Lev has informed MK Ran Cohen.

The Citizens Rights Movement MK wrote to Bar-Lev on the matter on April 26, pointing out that since the police concerned wear work clothes on duty, the local population has no means of identifying them, which makes checking complaints of mistreatment difficult, to the detriment of both sides.

A question of political survival

THE MOSCOW SUMMIT may be important to President Ronald Reagan for his place in history; it is important to General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev for his political survival. A steady diet of events like this is the quickest and cheapest way for Gorbachev to show the Soviet people that his regime is worth supporting.

There may be no treaty signed at this month's summit, but the mere fact that an old Cold Warrior like Reagan comes to Moscow and says friendly things is invaluable to Gorbachev politically. Besides, the Intermediate Nuclear Forces treaty is already in the bag, the Soviet pullout from Afghanistan is underway, and an agreement on deep cuts in strategic nuclear weapons will probably be concluded later this year.

Gorbachev needs every bit of peace-oriented diplomatic activity he can get for two reasons, and both have to do with perestroika (reconstruction), his ambitious project for the radical reform of the Soviet economy. One reason is purely military; the other, and even more important, is political and psychological.

A prime goal of perestroioka is to transfer wasted manpower and resources to more productive activities. There is no activity more unproductive than military spending, and for a long time the Soviet Union has been spending a higher proportion of its GNP on the military than any other industrialized country except Israel.

That is the price of competing with the U.S. in an arms race when your economy is only half the size. Even the Soviets don't know exactly how big their defence budget is (their prices are too unrealistic), but when the Americans recently suggested that it was 16 per cent of GNP, the Soviets replied that "it could be of that order." (U.S. defence spending is only 7 per cent of GNP).

Moreover, Soviet defence industry appropriates up to half the best scientific, technological and managerial personnel in the country, and is virtually the only economic sector where quality control is taken seriously. Unless Gorbachev can shift a lot of those resources and people to civilian production, perestroika is virtually bound to fail – so he desperately needs treaties that will let him cut military spending.

Even more urgent is his need

to demonstrate to a sceptical population that all the sacrifices they are being asked to make are worthwhile. This is a critical problem, because he cannot reasonably hope for a big rise in the quality and availability of consumer goods he cannot reasonably hope for years.

In the meantime, everybody has to work harder; prices will go up to realistic, unsubsidized levels; many people's wages wil fall; and some people will even lose their soft jobs and have to switch to humbler ones. This is not what the coddled Soviet work force has been brought up to expect, although Gorbachev is quite blunt about why it's necessary.

"It is vexing and unpleasant when workers get paid less," he told Moscow factory workers in March. "But how can we pay full money if it is not earned? Previously things worked according to the principle: whether you turned out the goods or not, of good quality or not, you still got the money."

"And what was the result? Resources were used up, labour was expended, money was paid out, and there were no goods. Is this the way to live? Of course not." Gorbachev is quite right, but that is not going to cut much ice with ordinary workers who can see no immediate material compensation for all these harsh new demands.

So the only thing Gorbachev can offer the increasingly disgruntled mass of the population for the moment is the promise of a more peaceful future. But that is a highly saleable commodity in the Soviet Union, where ordinary people's fear of war is probably more intense than in any other major power.

Gorbachev's interest in making the world a safer place is undoubtedly genuine, but he also has an enormous political stake in getting a steady flow of agreements with the West on arms cuts, troop withdrawals, demilitarized zones and the like. About one deal every six months for the next three years would be ideal, in terms of compensating for popular doubts about his domestic economic policies.

This does not mean that Gorbachev will give anything away for free. He is a Russian patriot, and in any case his need to allay the suspicions of the powerful Soviet armed forces will ensure that he drives hard bargains. But events like the Moscow summit nevertheless provide an unprecedented opportunity for imaginative and far-reaching moves toward disarmament between the superpowers.

A warm welcome. (AFP)

The Sharpville Six (clockwise from top left): Oupa Moses Deniso, Mojalefa Reginald Sefatsa, Duma Joshua Khumalo, Reid Malebo Makoena, Theresa Ramashamola and Francis Manentsa Mokhesi. (Reuter)

South Africa's busy hangman

WO DAYS before the Sharpeville ix were due to be hanged, they ere taken to be weighed and meaured. They thought it was to meare their coffins. In fact, it was parently to adjust the drop and e rope, to ensure that death is stantaneous.

On the same day, the personal ossessions of the six were packed and handed to their relatives. he following day, services were eld for them by well-wishers who ere unaware that as they prayed, e stay of execution was granted. e next night, there was much lebrating.

"We didn't know that on the same y there had been a seventh man, t connected to the Sharpeville x, who was hanged," says Sheena uncan, former president of the ack Sash women's organization, d one of the leaders of a new mpaign against the death penalty South Africa.

Most of those executed in South Africa are non-political prisoners who lose their lives without public knowledge or fanfare.

The gallows in Pretoria Central Prison are equipped to hang seven people at a time. In the second week of December last year, for example, seven were hanged on Tuesday, sev-

John Matisonn / Jo'burg

en on Wednesday, and another seven on Thursday, "presumably to clear the decks for the warders to celebrate the Christmas holidays," Duncan comments.

South Africa hanged 164 people last year. Fifty-nine have gone to the gallows this year alone. Of these, 44 were black, 14 were coloured and one was white. All were men. The total on death row on May 5 was 274.

Most of the executions are of non-political offenders. They get less public attention than the politicals. The fact that the gallows can accommodate seven at a time came to light after members of the Black Sash questioned a report in 1981. It said that tear gas was used to get four condemned men from their cells for execution. Sash members wondered why four were taken at once.

In answering a question they sent to the newspaper, the prisons department explained that up to seven could be executed simultaneously.

A parliamentary question by David Dalling, MP for the liberal Progressive Federal Party, asked if seven were hanged at one time, if there were seven executioners or only one, if each had his own religious minister, or whether one pastor ministered to all. The minister of justice asked Dalling to withdraw the question as the answers would be "too gruesome."

(London Observer Service)

Communicating the Afghan experience

Helen Womack / Moscow

SOVIET ARMY translator Alexander Karpenko had served in Afghanistan for only two months when a rebel mine exploded near him, breaking both his legs and severely burning his face.

Now seven years later, walking normally but terribly scarred for life, Karpenko, 26, is writing songs and poetry in an attempt to convey his experience to many Soviet people whom the Afghan war never touched.

"Naturally, people try to forget horrible experiences," he said in a recent interview in his Moscow flat provided by the state when he came home from the war. But the job of the poet is to keep those memories alive, without bitterness, so as to inform people, he said.

The communication gap between those who have seen war and those who have not is always wide. but the problem seems particularly acute in the case of the Soviet military involvement in Afghanistan, which began in 1979 and is due to end with the pullout of troops over the next nine months.

Unlike World War II which involved the whole Soviet people in a cause almost universally perceived as just, the Afghan war directly affected only a few hundred thousand families. Not everyone, even at the highest political level, agreed that it was righteous, and some young people went to prison or checked themselves into mental hospitals to avoid the draft.

Until Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev began allowing more glasnost, the embarrassing issue of Afghanistan was largely ignored by the Soviet media and men returning from the war met the indifference and even hostility of those not involved, as numerous recent press articles testify.

Soviet officials have ow begun to admit that Moscow made mistakes in Afghanistan and perhaps should not have intervened there at all. The dilemma facing Soviet society is how to reassess the political decisions of the past without detracting from the honour of individuals who had no choice but to serve and in many cases suffer in Afghanistan.

Judging from conversations with soviet soldiers in Kabul and veterans in Moscow, the war was a nightmare in which almost all were either hurt themselves or saw close friends killed or wounded.

"For some reason, on the night before I was injured, I could not get to sleep," said Karpenko, recalling with obvious pain the ambush on the Kabul-Gardez road in 1981.

"We slept on the ground in the mountains and all night long the tracer bullets fell like hail. When we woke, we set out again in a convoy but my truck drove over a mine. I lost consciousness. When i came round, I saw the blue sky above me and asked a friend: 'Am i alive?' He assured me I was and they took me to hospital in Kabul."

The positive side of Karpenko's experience is that it has freed his creativity. "If I had not been injured, poetry would probably have been no more than a hobby to me," said Karpenko, who lives on a relatively-high officers' pension of 150 roubles ($235) a month and spends his time writing and helping other veterans.

He gives concerts in his home, picking out the melodies to such songs as "One Way Ticket to War" with his good hand on the piano. A bad burn on his other hand makes it impossible for him to play the guitar he once preferred.

In contrast to a number of war-wounded who, the media say, were rejected by their wives and girlfriends when they came home, Karpenko has found love. "I decided to marry him after coming to see his inner qualities," said Natasha, 18, who met him through Moscow's new charity for lonely people, Miloserdie. The wedding took place last month.

"The majority of Soviet people relate normally to the Afghan veterans," karpenko said. "But unfortunately, there are a few people at two extremes – those who pity us and those who are unkind and behave as if Afghanistan never existed. The latter are mostly young people from well-to-do families who just want to have a good time.+ (Reuter)

An Afghan woman walks past a sign in Kabul reading: "Thank you to our Soviet friends – and goodbye." (Reuter)

Experts fault U.S. strategy in Panama

THE REAGAN administration's failed effort to induce Panamanian leader Manuel Antonio Noriega to surrender power was riddled with blunders, according to a number of independent experts.

But while many of the experts found fault with the way the administration handled the negotiations, they had few ideas on what the United States can do now to achieve its goals of an apolitical military and restoring constitutional rule in Panama. "We're in for the long haul," said Eva Loser of the Centre for Strategic and International Studies.

To some experts, the U. S. looked both foolish and weak after Noriega refused last Wednesday to sign on to a U.S.-brokered deal that called for his resignation in August and temporary departure from Panama

George Gedda / Washington

while an election process took place.

"I think that what's happened is we've really seen the limits of U.S. intervention," said Douglas Bandow of the Cato Institute. "And despite the fact that we're a superpower, we would have trouble killing a fly."

Assistant Secretary of State Elliott Abrams defended the negotiations in a telephone interview, saying, "People critical of the negotiations criticized us when we were not negotiating. That's called politics." Abrams argued that the negotiations revealed America's good faith and Noriega's lack of it.

James Hackett, an associate at the Heritage Foundation, said that the administration's first mistake was in bringing drug smuggling indictments last February against Noriega. "You don't go around indicting foreign presidents or rulers," said Hackett, a former foreign service officer who once served in Panama. Douglas Bandow of the Cato Institute agreed that it's a "little crazy" to blame other countries for a U.S. drug problem.

Several of the experts were unable to recall any instance in which U.S. federal indictments were handed down against a foreign leader.

Abrams discounted criticism of the indictments. "The indictments drove Noriega crazy and gave us a terrific bargaining tool," Abrams said. "For negotiating purposes, they turned out to be useful," he added, suggesting that administration envoys would not have come as close to an agreement as they did without them.

Ms. Loser of the Centre for Strategic and International Studies said that what started out as an internal Panamanian problem "snowballed into a bilateral problem."

Ms. Loser, who recently returned from a visit to Panama, said that the U. S. mistakenly "treated him (Noriega) like two-bit tin horn dictator. That's not how you treat someone of that calibre." She said that the U.S. "should maintain and tighten" existing economic sanctions against Panama.

She also said Noriega is being aided by money pouring into the Panamanian economy by the 50,000 Americans living there and recommended limits be found to such spending.

Ambler Moss, a former ambassador to Panama, agreed with Ms. Loser that the U.S. should have joined with other Latin American countries in the attempt to negotiate a settlement. "I think we missed a good bet all along by going it alone and becoming the principal actor unilaterally in somebody else's internal political crisis," he said.

Moss also said Secretary of State George Shultz may have been wrong in saying recently that talks with Noriega had ended when the Panamanian leader backed out of a deal that his subordinates had negotiated. He said that it was possible that the deal was vetoed by Noriega's subordinates who were worried that the deal did not protect their interests.

But Abrams disagreed with that theory. He said the most likely explanation was that Noriega, after overseeing a prolonged negotiating process, could not bring himself to accept a deal that required him to say, "I'm through." (Associated Press)

Chiang dynasty lives on in Hitler's old soldier

NE OF HITLER's most unlikely l corporals is an author of books Chinese philosophy, a 33rd de- e Mason and ex-master of the echuan lodge in central China. He also an honoured commander and preme coordinator of much of iwan's military and intelligence ivity. But above all, he is the son Chiang Kai-shek.

Now 72, the short, trim, soldierly neral Chiang Wei-kuo is the secary-general of Taiwan's National curity Council. He is the last powul member of the Chiang dynas- which dominated Chinese poli- from the early Twenties until the mmunist victory and the flight to iwan in 1949.

n March 1938 he was a corporal nmanding the reconnaissance toon of the 98th Jager regiment, ich gave the signal for Hitler's ay to drive across the Austrian ntier. He remembers Hitler as a nd man."

he 22-year-old Chiang Wei-kuo the only foreigner in the Wehrcht. His older half-brother ang Ching-kuo, who had been lin's prisoner in Russia for 15 rs, succeeded their father the peralissimo as Taiwan's presit, and died last January.

n Taiwan they say discreetly of ang Kai-shek's two sons: "Same ier, different mothers." But it is re complicated than that. Older -brother Ching-kuo was the son he Generalissimo's first wife. His ond wife, the formidable Ma- e Chiang Kai-shek who now lives in seclusion in Taipei, bore no children.

Wei-kuo's mother never married the Generalissimo and with her son moved from place to place during his childhood. "Don't feel too sorry for him," says a long-time friend. "That was old China and remember he was the emperor's son."

Jonathan Mirsky / Taipei

Wei-kuo remembers seeing little of his father as a youngster, receiving just a few visits and a few presents every year. He wanted to be an officer, but his father urged him to study engineering at university first. His older half-brother had already gone off to Russia.

But the game with Stalin was not enough. In 1936, Chiang Kai-shek, who had already engaged two of Hitler's generals to assist him against the Communists, sent Wei-kuo to Germnay. There he served first as a private, second class. He met Hitler three times. "He was a kind man, I respected him."

The highly disciplined young Chiang – "I have always carried out all orders" – participated in the Austrian *Anschluss* and in the invasion of the Sudetenland. But in Sepetmber 1939, his career as a German soldier abruptly ended. "It was the beginning of the war and the military attache at our embassy told me it ws time to leave."

After a year in the United States, studying air and armoured tactics at army staff colleges – where he refused to brief the Americans about the German army "because it would have been disloyal" – Wei-kuo returned to China, and in late 1940 volunteered as an infantry lieutenant with the 1st Army which was facing the Japanese on the Yellow River. By the end of the war he was a lieutenant-colonel and was soon commanding armoured units in the war with the Communists.

"All that land reform was a trick. They didn't win the war – we lost it. Our senior commanders wouldn't fight a mobile war... Even my father couldn't persuade them."

There lingers an old stab-in-the-back resentment, which still animates many Nationalists. "The Americans forced us to negotiate with the Communists. If we refused they would have cut off all aid. If we had had better commanders and the Americans had kept out of politics, naturally we would have defeated the Communists."

Today he is determined to return to the mainland, no longer by smashing ashore at the head of his tanks, but as the result of a Communist collapse.

"We don't want to annihilate them. They'll be overthrown," said Hitler's old corporal, smiling happily. "I'm healthy and strong enough to see the end. It's not wishful thinking. Once they begin to crack, everything will happen very fast."

(London Observer Service)

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Computer invades the kindergarten

NEW WORLDS

Judy Siegel-Itzkovich

A PERSONAL COMPUTER, given a prominent place in kindergarten along with the Lego blocks, dolls and miniature cars, will bring great benefits to five-year-old children in developing their logical and abstract thinking.

The early use of computers even before children can read is advocated by Gideon Levine, a psychologist who until recently was head of the Centre for the Study of Child Activity at Oranim, the kibbutz movement's school of education. Levine directed a team of researchers who studied more than 500 children in two age groups, five-year-olds in kindergarten and six-year-olds in first grade.

The kids were given free access to a computer in their class, and they spent an average of 15 minutes per session working on it. No child was forced to have anything to do with the machine. Levine found that when a teacher sat next to the computer for long periods of time, more children asked for explanations on how to work it and wanted to use it.

The computer, says Levine, is an adult tool, so it attracts children who prefer "real" objects to make-believe ones like irons, washing machines, telephones or cameras. Unlike other electronic devices, it encourages the child to take an active part in running it. According to the research, five-year-olds can already get a great deal out of computer use.

Levine recommends that the computer be placed in a prime location in the kindergarten room, and not in an out-of-the-way computer corner. He also recommends that all kindergarten teachers be sent for special computer training and that they, or a volunteer with computer experience – including a parent, student or pensioner – sit next to the computer for two or three hours a day to help the children.

FIVE-STAR HOTELS have started to use them to save energy, and now they are being offered for use in offices, warehouses, hospitals and factories as well. The ES-20 Energy Saver automatically turns off the lights and heating or cooling equipment when you enter the room, and turns it off after you've left. The infra-red human-presence detector knows someone is in the room even if he/she is asleep or sitting quietly behind a desk. Just 7 x 12 centimetres in size, and weighing 140 grams, the device is marketed by Bakara 3 Systems at 88 Jaffa Road, Jerusalem.

BRAZIL'S AMAZON Basin threatens to become the biggest ecological problem in the world, according to Prof. Yoel Gat, who is taking part in a UN-sponsored study on the long-range consequences of changing land use on the ecology and climate of that area.

Gat explains that giant mahogany trees are being cut down by private companies, with government permission, at a very rapid rate. According to the latest estimates, 15 per cent of the total mahogany forest has already been cut down. The loss of water from the ecological system, due to the loss of the trees, may well affect worldwide climatic conditions.

Half of the rainfall in the forest is due to evaporation and transpiration due to the density of vegetation. With fewer trees, solar radiation of the area will increase temperatures, reducing cloud cover in the jungle. Since water vapour reaching central Brazil from the tropical north has barely kept rainfall at an adequate level, this could cause drought in the central part of the country. A drier Brazil would, in turn, affect global climatic patterns, perhaps even changing the length of seasons.

PEOPLE YAWN because they're bored and sleepy, and if someone else yawns, you're likely to do it too. You might have predicted it, but American researchers studied the phenomenon and came to these boring conclusions. But according to an article in the local science-for-youth weekly *Lada'at*, they proved that yawns are not caused by the lack or oxygen or surplus of CO_2 in the body. Yawning is also not a way for the body to regulate these gases in the body.

The researchers asked volunteers to inhale various concentrations of oxygen and CO_2 and found no connection between that and the tendency to yawn. They also discovered that it's very difficult to yawn with your mouth taped shut or when your lower jaws are not completely free to open. After all these studies, scientists are still in the dark about why people do, in fact, yawn.

CHOCOLATE that tastes milky but may be eaten by observant Jews with meat meals has been developed by a French chocolate manufacturer with the historic name Pierre Koenig. His chocolate, which will be on display at a food exhibition in New York next month, was inspired by American Jewish friends who complained about having to make do with bittersweet chocolate for meat meals.

The new chocolate is made with soy "milk" rather than the real thing, but Koenig claims it tastes like the best milk chocolate.

HANDICAPPED PERSONS who can only operate computers and the like are employed at four computer centres opened recently in Ashkelon, Petah Tikva, Holon and Netanya. Run by Hameshakem, the public-supported organization that employs 5,000 handicapped, the centres offer bookkeeping, computer programming and word processing for individual customers and companies, competing with the private sector. Two more centres are soon to open in other towns.

Hameshakem has found special solutions for very handicapped persons who cannot use both hands freely.

Children meet the computer at the Centre for the Study of Child Activity at Oranim. (Shlomo Shoham)

Producing hi-tech mushrooms

Lisa Perlman

THERE IS a certain irony to the fact that the fruits of a kibbutznik's labour are competing with nature for the perfect product. Take mushrooms, for example – in this case, exotic mushrooms.

GTM, a kibbutz industry, is growing, and even creating, exotic fungi for the gourmet-food industry abroad – via an organic process in a boiler. The biotechnology division of the company became aware of the potential niche following the nuclear power plant accident at Chernobyl, which drastically reduced the supply of wild mushrooms from northeastern Europe.

"The only limitation is that you can't grow them naturally," says the company's marketing manager, veteran kibbutznik Moshe Sela. Instead of the sun (or rather shade), earth and water, they now thrive on yeast and a chemical mixture in a cooker.

Though still a very small-scale operation, the results look promising and already include long, noodle-style and pancake-shaped mushrooms. "It is not easy to market such things because foods, especially exotic foods, are very competitive," Sela, the company's marketing manager, says. The response to the 10-kilogram lots they have been sending to Europe, while not overwhelming, has been one of "interest."

While Sela is aware that "even after small-scale success, we could still fail when we move to the big boilers," he speaks enthusiastically about the venture's development potential: "Once you start imitating nature in this way, you can create not only the products, such as mushrooms, but also exotic flavours."

THE BIOTECHNOLOGY division is one of three branches of GTM, the acronym for Galil Technologiot Meda. In fact, as the name translates, the company specializes in "information" technologies: its two other main divisions cover computerized education and instruction, and software communication between large organizations. GTM is the daughter company of Milouot, a cooperative organization owned by 40 western Galilee kibbutzim.

"The concept, like everything else on kibbutz, came later," smiles Sela. "Necessity came first."

He explains that, since kibbutz labour is not cheap, Milouot was set up as part of an attempt to redirect investments into automation. "A history of industry proves that struggling along traditional product lines is difficult. The Far East gets into the market, and we have no advantage of size and other such factors."

Most kibbutzim that tried the high-tech approach failed, he maintains, because a knowledge base, even when funds are available, is not enough. And since "one of the ideals of kibbutzim is not to hire workers from outside... 200 adults [from the kibbutz] can't compete with Mitsubishi, neither from the point of technical nor marketing innovation."

Sela prefers to place GTM in the "information industry," rather than the "high-tech industry." Before setting up the company, he says, "We first asked ourselves: 'What's our advantage? Something that doesn't cost too much and that our competitors are running after.' " The answer they found: a specific kind of knowledge, one that can enhance high tech.

Thus GTM was started by "a group of people who had decided to set up a knowledge company: to determine marketing, funding and product definition," and then apply the results to the affiliated kibbutzim. What may be particularly innovative – at least outwardly – on the part of GTM is the fact that, "We decided that if we needed some piece of [copyrighted] knowledge, we would be free to hire it or buy it." He refers to the different "layers" of the company, stressing the point that there is no hierarchy.

'Decline in research poses a danger to Israel's security'

Alex and Malka Keynan (Isaac Harari)

Judy Siegel-Itzkovich

EPHRAIM Katzir, the scientist and former president of Israel, warned last week that the decline in basic scientific research here "poses a danger to our security and is a blow to our economic power."

He was speaking at a conference in Jerusalem to mark the 30th anniversary of the Batsheva de Rothschild Foundation for the Advancement of Science and Technology. Founded by the only member of the Rothschild family to settle in Israel, the fund provides seed money for basic research and fellowships to young Israeli scientists.

A good barometer of the decline of Israeli achievements in science is the reduced number of times research papers by Israelis are quoted by scientists writing around the world. The list is compiled from international data bases in Philadelphia. Last year it was 20 per cent shorter than in 1982, according to the Institute of Scientific Information.

Prof. Alex Keynan, pro-rector for research at the Hebrew University, is a volunteer activist in the foundation, and his wife Malka has been its secretary for the past 20 years. In an interview with *The Jerusalem Post*, the Keynans said that the list of citations shows a growing trend of scientific research in the Arab countries, most notably Jordan, and that even Egyptian science, which was previously almost never mentioned, is now being quoted in scholarly articles. This is a clear red light for Israel, which always depended on the "quality" of its brainpower to make up for the lack of quantity of its population.

The decline in basic research is a clear result of the erosion of university budgets over the past 15 years, from $320 million in 1973 to $250m. today. In addition, today's figure involves inflated dollars that buy less equipment and pay fewer salaries. The foundation used to receive 50 grant applications a year, but this has jumped to 150 because of the drying up of government funds.

The Philadelphia list also shows that Israeli scientists who conduct research tend to do the work abroad much more than was the case before. This is either because they have left Israel with the intention of emigrating, or because the lack of facilities and funds forces them to work temporarily abroad.

Israeli scientists of the older generation, says Malka Keynan, had excellent ties with scientists abroad. "Just a phone call and they could get a briefing in person on new research, or ask a colleague to help a student here or there." But because of the shrinking of Israeli prominence, such ties will be much rarer among the new generation of scientists.

Batsheva de Rothschild, now 73 and living in Afeka, established her fund with $2 million in 1958. Since then, the fruits of the investment has produced $4m., which has been distributed among 355 young Israeli researchers. It has also financed 60 seminars on new research conducted here by top foreign experts for Israeli scientists and students. It also helped pay the salaries of 165 immigrant scientists who otherwise could not have been given a university position.

The fund, explains Prof. Keynan, "is very flexible, and it changes priorities according to the changes in science. At first, it helped promote basic and applied scientific research in fields like agriculture and medicine. The first study was epidemiological research on kidney stones in European immigrants. It was found that when they arrived here, they did not drink large amounts of water like the natives and developed a high rate of kidney stones."

Other early projects included the development of wheat strains that can grow in a desert climate. "They found that seeds produced in dry areas are nearly disease-free, and as a result many strains are developed in such climates."

But since 1966, the de Rothschild Foundation has devoted most of its assets to basic research. "If you don't support that, there will be no applied research later," explains Malka. Since the foundation is run "without any bureaucracy," applications are processed quickly after being studied by a committee of experts.

The three or four seminars run here by the foundation each year are very popular among Israeli scientists, and are held on themes of burning interest to them. Anywhere from a dozen to 150 top scientists are invited to attend, and each costs the foundation $20,000 to organize. Last week's seminar was on neural networks in the central nervous system. These are studied not only by doctors and biologists, but also by telecommunications experts who would like to copy human nerve communication systems.

Keynan admits freely to two failures. In the 'sixties, the foundation started sending young immigrant scientists abroad for advanced study. But when it saw they weren't coming back, it cancelled the programme. And 15 years ago it tried to promote more information about science for the general public. They tried, but failed, to get scientists to learn how to write in a journalistic style. They also failed to get journalists to work in the laboratory with scientists, so the media people could better understand the scientific research. Competitions for science writing were held and awards were presented, but, says Malka, it did not have an important impact on newspapers and magazines.

But the foundation hopes that its good example of financing scientific research will goad the government into realizing that the disaster is already upon us. It is pressing for the establishment of a U.S.-style National Science Foundation with millions of dollars for basic research, so that Israel can at least return to the research level of its earlier, glorious history.

Global travel computer

Greer Fay Cashman

ADVANCED technology is threatening to make travel brochures obsolete or at least to give them a lower profile. The day will not be long in coming when travellers anywhere in the world can walk into a travel agency and get a complete print-out to suit their travel needs.

Instead of going home weighed down with glossy publications, travellers, by asking the right questions, can get their travel agents to press appropriate computer buttons to get the most detailed information.

Such data include air, land and sea transport; hotel prices, theatres, tourist sites and even visa requirements.

Here in Israel, the infrastructure has been completed for *Israline*, a computer system which will connect tour operators and travel agents to the world's largest travel industry data bank.

Built up and owned by the Israel Tourist and Travel Agents Association and some of the individual members of the association, *Israline*, first mooted a year and a half ago, is due to become operational next month.

Its purpose, says operations manager John Asher, is to provide services to Israeli travellers by initially connecting travel agents and at later stages all other tourist enterprises with one central point.

Because of the expense – half a million dollars in the first phase – the initiators of the project were cautious. They took their time testing different systems, such as Pars, which is run by TWA, and Sabre, which is owned by American Airlines. They finally settled on Apollo, which is run by United Airlines through its Covia subsidiary.

About a decade ago Apollo Services became the first computerized reservations system offered to travel agencies. Since then, close to 10,000 agencies in over 40 countries have joined the world-wide Covia network. The system's IBM mainframe computers can process over 1,400 inquiries per second.

"We found the Apollo system the most advanced and best suited to local travel agents' needs," says Asher. The system is connected to well over 600 airlines, more than 20,000 hotels and all major car rental companies.

An agreement was reached with Covia for on-line connection by *Israline*. The connection for Tel Aviv agents will be made via direct telephone lines. Those outside Tel Aviv will link up with Bezek's Sifranet lease-line service. This service will in turn connect with Sita, the International Society for Aeronautical Telecommunications, a company jointly owned by all international airlines.

The *Israline* switch is a Tandem computer, which, concedes Asher, is very expensive, compared to other computers, but is built specifically for the communications business. It operates continuously and is fault-tolerant. If any part of the system fails, another part automatically takes over without loss of data and without the knowledge of the end-user.

"It's the state of the art," says Asher. "We could have gone for cheaper systems, but we went for the best." An American-based company, founded in 1974, Tandem's revenue last year exceeded $1 billion, a 35 per cent increase over 1986. In April last year, the company decided to increase its visibility by trading its common stock on the New York Stock Exchange.

Israline does not yet have its own site and is using the Koornets site. This is doubly beneficial, first, because Koornets has experience in running Tandem computers, and secondly because Koornets has good accessibility to communications lines in the Tel Aviv area.

Over the past month experts from the U.S. have come to Israel to instal the software; and someone flew in from Sita to approve the system.

The computer, predicts Asher, will replace the telephone. It will be so much easier, faster and more efficient to press a button and see the desired information come on the screen, than to have to wait impatiently for a telephone to stop emitting a busy signal.

Israline is starting up slowly. So far, 24 members of Israel's travel industry have been to Paris for the intensive one-week training course. Asher is certain that more will follow as soon as they become convinced that the system really works.

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Steffi swamps Fulco; Becker bounced

ARIS (Reuter) – Steffi Graf went ough another gentle training ex- cise to reach the semifinals of the ench Open tennis championships sterday, not being extended in the ghtest by Bettina Fulco of Argen- a in a 6-0, 6-1 wipeout.

One spectator, fumbling to open umbrella as intermittent rain fell, ssed most of the first set as Graf it a succession of forehand win- rs whizzing past Fulco.

The rain didn't faze the partisan ench crowd cheering on their untryman Henri Leconte. In front a capacity crowd of 16,000, the th seed Leconte outlasted No. 5 oris Becker in a thriller, 6-7, 6-3, 1, 5-7, 6-4.

Leconte had trouble putting cker away, twice double-faulting at crucial moments. But on his second match point he rocketed a serve Becker couldn't handle, then ran forward and leaped over the net

Graf, who has dropped only 14 games in her five matches at Roland Garros, wrapped up the first set in 16 minutes for the loss of just three points.

Fulco, 19, won just 13 points in dropping the first 11 games, but then took 10 points in the last two games, one of which she won. Graf won 56 points during the match, mostly with her powerful forehands.

"It was terrible, a terrible feeling," Fulco said.

Graf said her training sessions on days off were harder work than her appearances on centre court. "The tough questions at press conferences sometimes make me sweat more than the matches," she added.

Fuming rather than sweating, Martina Navratilova teamed up with long-time partner Pam Shriver to defeat Soviets Natalia Zvereva and Natalia Bykova 6-3, 6-2, to reach the quarter-finals.

The 31-year old Navratilova, who defected from Czechoslovakia in 1975, said her singles loss to Zvereva was "particularly disgusting." It was the first time since she defected that she lost to a Soviet.

Other results: Men – Jonas B. Svensson, Sweden, def. Kent Carlsson (7), Sweden, 5-7, 7-6, 1-6, 6-4, 6-2; Pat Cash (4), Australia, and Andrei Chesnokov (14), USSR, postponed; Ivan Lendl and John McEnroe, postponed;

Women – Gabriela Sabatini (4), Argentina, leads Helen Kelesi, Canada, 4-6, 6-1, going a break up to lead 2-1 in the third before rain stopped play for the night.

Doubles or nothing

ANDREI CHESNOKOV – Diplomatic plan squelched.

PARIS (AFP) – Soviet tennis star Andrei Chesnokov's attempt to launch his own version of sports diplomacy was shot down before it could ever get off the ground. The 22-year old from Moscow wanted to play doubles with Amos Mansdorf – even though the Soviet Union and Israel have no diplomatic relations.

Mansdorf agreed to the idea but when Chesnokov went to his national tennis federation for a compulsory all-clear, he was turned down flat without explanation. The Israeli champion who is also 22, was tight-lipped about the issue, saying only: "I'm not too keen to talk about it. I don't want to create any problems for Andrei." Although the Israeli believes the doubles partnership could one day become reality, he does not think it could go as far as encouraging a diplomatic rapprochement. "We're only tennis players, you know, not politicans," he said.

Padres carefree under McKeon

NEW YORK (AP) – After just two games under Manager Jack McKeon, the San Diego Padres are already feeling better.

The Padres defeated the New York Mets 6-3 on Sunday, giving McKeon his first victory since taking over for Larry Bowa, who was fired the day before.

"It seems we're a little more carefree now," said Jimmy Jones, who allowed eight hits, walked none and struck out three in 8⅔ innings to improve his record to 4-5. Mark Davis relieved in the ninth to earn his sixth save.

Keith Moreland's RBI double sparked a five-run seventh inning, the Padres' biggest outburst of the season, and broke open a scoreless duel between Jones and Bob Ojeda, 4-4.

Cardinals 3, Braves 1

Jose DeLeon and Ken Dayley combined on a four-hitter for St. Louis' 11th victory in 13 games against Atlanta.

DeLeon, 4-4, allowed four hits, walked one and struck out eight but lost his bid for a shutout when Albert Hall hit his first homer of the season with one out in the bottom of the ninth. Dayley relieved and earned his second save.

Astros 7, Cubs 1

Rafael Ramirez's grand slam highlighted a six-run sixth inning and Nolan Ryan allowed three hits in 7⅓ innings as visiting Houston defeated Chicago to snap a four-game losing streak.

Ryan, 5-2, walked four and struck out four to gain the 266th victory of his career, upping his lifetime mark against Chicago to 16-5.

Phillies 4, Giants 2

Bruce Ruffin scattered nine hits over seven innings and Chris James homered and scored twice as Philadelphia defeated San Francisco to complete a sweep of the three-game home series.

Ruffin, 4-4, who was aided by four double plays, struck out two and walked two. Steve Bedrosian pitched two hitless innings to earn his third save. Mike Krukow, 4-3, took the loss.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Eastern Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
New York	32	15	.681	–
Pittsburgh	29	19	.604	3½
St. Louis	25	23	.521	7½
Chicago	23	24	.489	9
Montreal	22	24	.478	9½
Philadelphia	18	27	.400	13

Western Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Los Angeles	27	18	.600	–
Houston	26	20	.565	1½
San Francisco	24	25	.490	5
Cincinnati	23	25	.479	5½
San Diego	17	31	.354	11½
Atlanta	15	30	.333	12

SUNDAY'S RESULTS: Los Angeles 2, Montreal 1; San Diego 6, New York 3; Philadelphia 4, San Francisco 2; St. Louis 3, Atlanta 1; Pittsburgh 4, Cincinnati 2; Houston 7, Chicago 1.

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Eastern Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
New York	32	15	.681	–
Cleveland	30	18	.625	2½
Detroit	28	19	.596	4
Milwaukee	25	23	.521	7½
Boston	23	22	.511	8
Toronto	21	28	.429	12
Baltimore	10	38	.208	22½

Western Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Oakland	34	14	.708	–
Minnesota	24	22	.522	9
Texas	24	23	.511	9½
Kansas City	22	26	.458	12
Seattle	21	28	.429	13½
Chicago	20	27	.426	13½
California	19	30	.388	15½

SUNDAY'S RESULTS: Milwaukee 7, Cleveland 2; Toronto 4, Chicago 2; Minnesota 6, Detroit 3; Kansas City 12, Texas 1; Baltimore 3, California 2; Oakland 5, Boston 4; New York 7, Seattle 3.

Off-court action heats up

By DON GOULD

L AVIV – The Israel basketball ne never lets up. If it isn't excite- nt on the court between Septem- r and mid-May, then it is excite- nt off the court with rumours of des and management changes. rrent off-season dramatics swirl ound the national team, which npetes at the end of June in the -Olympic trials in Holland.

The dust has finally settled re- ding the selection of Ralph Klein the team's new head coach. And w he has invited 15 players to rticipate in the training sessions. ey meet for the first time at the d of the week. Klein will then re the list down to a final 12 for tournament in Holland. Notable their absence is Yisrael Elime- h of Hapoel Holon, Chen Lippin of Maccabi Tel Aviv and Ari Rosenberg of Maccabi Haifa. Each, for his own reason, asked not to be included in this year's squad.

In addition, 2:10m-tall Howie Lassoff stated that he had personal reasons for not trying out for the team. His wife is expecting their first child, but his decision must also have been affected by the difficulties he experienced with coach Klein during the days together at Maccabi.

Those invited to attend training camp are: Amos Frishman, Hapoel Tel Aviv; Adi Gordon, Maccabi Haifa; Oren Shemer, Hapoel Gvat; Lavon Mercer, Hap Tel Aviv; Ofer Fleisher, Hap Galil Elyon; Itzhak Cohen, Mac Tel Aviv; Tomer Steinhamer, Mac Haifa; Nir Richlis, Mac Ramat Gan; Doron Jamchee, Mac Tel Aviv; Nadav Henfeld, Hap Galil Elyon; Avi Maor, Hap Holon; Mottie Daniel, Mac Tel Aviv; Lior Arditi, Mac Ramat Gan; Chaim Zlotkman, Hap Tel Aviv; Shimone Amsalem, Hap Tel Aviv.

Meanwhile, 38-year-old Earl Williams, so long a star for Maccabi Tel Aviv and who last season did such a fine job for Elitzur Ramle, evidently still feels that he wants to play in Israel. Williams shows no sign of age and was indeed named in this year's *Jerusalem Post* All-Star team. Earl has entered into serious negotiations with Hapoel Holon for next year.

The ever-aggressive Holon management is hoping for a "thumbs-up" from head coach Marvin Kessler regarding a return to his post for next season. Kessler wants to come back, and has promised a reply by June 1, but his wife is not happy about the prospect of another nine-month separation. She is not willing to forgo her career to join him in Israel.

Busy Holon are also continuing negotiations with Hapoel Tel Aviv's Jonathan Dalzell. Dalzell is in court with Hapoel Tel Aviv trying, among other things, to be released.

Mavericks drop Lakers again

DALLAS (AP) – The Dallas Mavericks were anything but hospitable to the Los Angeles Lakers, but now the Lakers get to play host.

The Mavericks took no notice of the defending NBA champions' intentions to win at least one of the two games here in their Western Conference finals, using a fourth quarter spurt to beat Los Angeles 118-104. The Mavericks' two home wins tie the series at 2-2, with the fifth game scheduled for today in Los Angeles.

Derek Harper scored 35 points and Mark Aguirre, who scored 26, had five straight baskets in a 16-7 fourth-quarter run to break open a tight game. Dallas trailed 57-56 at halftime despite shooting 61 percent for the first two periods, but got a little breathing room with an 89-83 lead going into the final quarter. The Lakers pulled to 89-87 but Aguirre's hot hand gave the Mavericks a 105-94 lead with 3:48 to go.

Magic Johnson, who led Los Angeles with 28 points, scored the Lakers' final seven points of the first half. There were 20 lead changes and eight ties in the half.

James Worthy had 18 points for the Lakers. Dallas' Roy Tarpley led all rebounders in the game with 13.

SOCCER – Walsall thrashed Bristol City 4-0 in a Second-Third Division play-off replay match yesterday to clinch their place in the higher division next season.

MOTOR RACING – Alain Prost of France extended his lead at the top of the world drivers' championship to a commanding 15 points when he cruised to his 31st Grand Prix victory in Mexico on Sunday. Prost, driving a McLaren, led throughout and set a lap record in the process as he led Brazilian teammate Ayrton Senna home in flawless style to win by 7.1 seconds. Ferrari pair Gerhard Berger of Austria and Italian Michele Alboreto finished third and fourth.

GOLF – Britain's Ian Woosnam captured the British PGA golf championship yesterday by two shots with a closing five-under-par 67, for a 14-under total of 274. The world's best player last year, Woosnam held off Spaniard Severiano Ballesteros to snatch the £50,000 first prize.

Enticing semis

Post Sports Staff

The final week of the long soccer ason gets under way in stylish hion this evening with an enticing uble-header of the State Cup ni-finals at the National Stadium Ramat Gan.

At 6 p.m., the season's two best clubs l be on show. Hapoel Tel Aviv will k the double when they play the team t finished as their runners-up in the gue, Maccabi Netanya.

Following them at 8 p.m. – unless ra time is needed – will be Maccabi Aviv against Shimshon. The latter aiming at their own kind of double er having taken the Toto Cup earlier season while Maccabi will want to vage something from what has thus far n for them a totally miserable season.

Local sport in brief

ATHLETICS – Nahum Rogel of A Tel Aviv improved the nation- long jump record with a leap of 4m at a meet on Saturday night. is bettered the previous record by m.

GOLF – Dennis Goldstein of rziya Pituach and Boet van Sta- a combined to win the weekend terball medal competition at esarea. Their 63 net bettered by stroke the husband and wife r, Mati and Malca Geri, and third ced Yonatan Statzen and Laurie n, who each carded joint 64s.

NNIS – ASA Tel Aviv jumped o first spot in the National gue standings following a 6-0 bbing of Maccabi Netanya in the match of the first round of nes. Hapoel Tel Aviv fell to sec- l after suffering a 4-2 defeat at hands of Maccabi Zafon B.

CHTING – The Turman broth- Dan and Ran finished a credit- e third out of 71 starting boats in ive-race 470 class regatta in lland.

Neo-Nazi link-up for Europe's soccer thugs

Post Sports Staff

Allegations of links between Euro-soccer louts and neo-Nazis have received striking new confirmation in a report published by Belgian academics.

The material was prepared by the staff at Leuven University's Department of Criminology in conjunction with police chiefs and senior soccer officials, the British anti-fascist monthly Searchlight reports in its latest edition.

Forecasting that the forthcoming European championships in West Germany could become a "hooligan's battleground," the report says that Belgian troublemakers make regular visits to Britain to observe their British counterparts in action.

Football hooligans and fascist groups are constantly in close contact, the report says, stressing that British soccer thugs are regarded all over the Continent as "the professionals" in the field.

Chelsea fans – who were in ugly action again on Saturday when they rioted after their club had been beaten by Middlesbrough and consequently demoted to the Second Division – are singled out as being "strongly infiltrated by the extreme right." Supporters of other English clubs mentioned as having fascist links include West Ham, Millwall and Manchester United.

Chelsea Nazis are reported by Spotlight to have been observed on terraces at Belgian grounds recently and there is hard information, the paper says, to indicate that they are mounting new efforts to embroil continental fans in their violence. The report adds that Chelsea louts have been recruiting thugs from Belgian clubs Anderlecht and Antwerp and have cemented an "alliance" with hooligans from Paris-St. Germain.

Carried by the crowd to a world record

MONTREAL (Reuter) – Canadian Allison Higson set a world record in the 200-metre breaststroke with a scintillating two minutes 27.27 seconds at the Canadian Olympic swimming trials.

Higson, 15, broke the record of 2:27.40 set in 1986 by Silke Horner of East Germany. Earlier in the day, Higson qualified for the event by setting a Commonwealth record of 2:29.41, breaking fellow-Canadian Cindy Onpuu's mark.

"It hasn't hit me yet, I'm so happy," said Higson, who was mobbed by her teammates after the race.

She joins Victor Davis, who set the men's 200-metre breaststroke mark in 1984, as current Canadian world record holders and gold medal contenders for the Seoul Olympics.

"I've had the world record on my mind for a year now," said Higson. "When I went out, I felt really strong.

"I think I heard the crowd after the 100 (metres). I think I tried to let the crowd take me – to listen to the crowd and go for it." A full house of about 3,000 at the Olympic Stadium pool cheered wildly as Higson hit a 100-metre split of 1:09.80, slightly better than her own Commonweath record of 1:09.84.

Revital Sharon, Seoul-searching gymnast

By DANNY BEN-TAL

Revital Sharon of Kiryat Bialik may well be the girl to bring Israeli gymnastics to international attention when she competes in September's Seoul Olympics. Sharon, 17, was in Jerusalem's Malcha Stadium over the weekend to receive *Davar's* "Sportswoman of the Year" award.

Following the award ceremony, members of the 16-strong national and junior squads delighted the audience with a display of gymnastic prowess. Sharon's exercises on the uneven bars, vault, beam and floor were particularly impressive.

She made the Olympic qualifying grade as early as last October at the World Championships in Rotterdam, where she finished 92nd overall.

Her first major success overseas came with a gold medal at the 1982 International Workers' Games in Italy. Since then she has been travelling abroad regularly, accumulating the kind of experience necessary to compete at this level. Recently in England, she even beat 1981 world champion Olga Bicharova.

Sharon has the kind of sharp-eyed intelligence and easy-going confidence that one sees in "achievers" in all walks of life. Her speech is as controlled and graceful as her floor exercises.

An average day for the highly-disciplined teenager begins at 6 a.m. As soon as school finishes at 1:30, she's off to the Wingate Institute's Berlin gymnasium, where national team coach Zahava Zissman takes the squad through its paces for four exerting hours. With the six-weekly sessions ending at eight, she rarely returns home before 10.

"I would love to go to the beach, to discos, or just hang out with my friends more often, but I simply don't have the time," she admitted candidly during a break in training.

"But the jealousy that I once felt from classmates has now disappeared, although I do receive special treatment from the school." The twelth-grader has been granted special privileges for her matriculations, most of which she will be allowed to tackle long after the Olympics.

As for boyfriends – "They'll have to wait a year or two; the Olympics won't."

Sharon has in her many tournaments abroad encountered problems that gymnasts from less controversial countries never face. "In all honesty, I sometimes feel discriminated against by judges because I'm Israeli. If I had 'USA' or 'Romania' on my back, I'm sure I would be ranked higher than 92 in the world.

"Still, I have made a number of close friends among the international gymnastic fraternity, to whom I probably sound like a P.R. officer for Israel most of the time" she laughs.

Coach Zissman has been training gymnasts for 16 years, the last seven as national team coach. She has a particularly close relationship with Sharon. "Revital has a unique blend of flamboyance and seriousness. She combines the properties of a beautiful dancer and a terrific acrobat.

"Gymnastics is a most subjective sport, and most of the Olympic judges know Revital already. I know she's going to do us all proud."

Zissman points to psychologist/coach Lilach Mevorach as playing no small part in the young gymnast's development.

Revital Sharon may or may not return from Seoul with a medal, but future generations of Israeli gymnasts are sure to look upon her as the girl who broke ground towards international recognition of the sport here.

ROLE-MODEL – Revital Sharon receives the adulation of young gymnasts after she was presented with the Sportswoman of the Year award. The star member of the Hapoel Tel Aviv club will compete for Israel in the Seoul Olympics. (Brian Hendler)

TELEVISION AND RADIO

TELEVISION

EDUCATIONAL TV

.00 Teletext **8.05** Keep Fit **8.15** Mathematics **8.40** No ecrets **9.00** English **9.20** Mathematics **10.10** English **0.30** Rehov Sumsum **11.00** French **11.15** Mathemat- is **11.30** Geography **12.25** Literature **13.00** Music **3.30** Sciences **14.00** Teletext **14.05** "The Golden eal" film **15.55** Pretty Butterfly **16.20** The Hidden Gold ities (part 9) **17.00** A New Evening

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMES:

7.30 Tail to the News **17.55** "Square Pegs" **18.20** nimation

ARABIC LANGUAGE PROGRAMMES:

8.30 News roundup **18.32** The Louvre – Cinquecento rt

HEBREW PROGRAMMES resume at

0.00 News roundup **20.02** One Too Many, TV game **0.30** Kolbotek **21.00** Mabat Newsreel **21.40** Second ook **22.20** "To Have and To Hold" (part 8) **23.10** "Personal Screen" **23.50** A View of the Dead Sea followed by the news

ISRAEL TV CHANNEL 2

8.30 Maya the Bee **19.00** "Queen Sacrifice" drama **9.30** Sixth Sense Encounter **20.00** Golden hits from e 60s, 70s, 80s **21.00** Classical Music – Schumann's alto Concerto op. 27 **21.30** Sports Magazine **21.45** ventions and Innovations

JORDAN TV (unofficial)

3.30 French Hour **19.30** News in Hebrew **20.00** News Arabic **20.30** I Married Dora **21.10** New Series **22.00** ews in English **22.20** Murder She Wrote **23.30** Rich an Poor Man

MIDDLE EAST TV

1.00 Another Life **15.00** 700 Club **15.30** Shape-Up **5.00** Spiral Zone **16.30** Flying House **17.00** Fraggle ock **17.30** Afternoon Movie: "Vengeance Valley" stars anne Dru and Burt Lancaster **18.00** Star Trek **20.00** ews **21.00** The A-Team **22.00** MacGyver **23.00** Airolf **24.00** 700 Club **24.30** Another Life

RADIO

VOICE OF MUSIC

01 Morning Melodies **7.00** Haydn: Cassation; Beetho- n: Early, unlisted Piano Concerto in E Flat; Mendels- hn: "Fingal's Cave" Overture; Schumann: Andante d Variations for 2 Pianos, 2 Cellos and Horn; Schubert: Pieces; Brahms: Double Concerto for Violin and Cello 00 Tchaikovsky: Music for a Play; Dvorak: Bagatelles Strings and Harmonium; Saint-Saens: Carnival of the imals; Debussy: 2 Fanfares from St. Sebastian; Rim- -Korsakov: Piano Concerto; Glinka: Fantasy for 2 Rus- n Folksongs; Gounod: Little Symphony for Wind Instruments; Mozart: Andante for Flute and Orchestra; Haydn: String Quartet op.76 no.1; Bach: Brandenburg Concerto No.1 **12.00** From the Record Shelf – Stefano Grondona, Guitar – works by Bach, Giuliani, Walton and Granados **13.05** Tubin: Estonian Dance Suite; Rimsky-Korsakov: Capriccio Espagnole; Borodin: In the Steppes of Central Asia; Lalo: Spanish Rhapsody; Dvorak: 2 Slavonic Rhapsodies; Copland: El Salon Mexico **15.00** Young Music **16.00** From the World's Concert Halls – Dresden Capella Guitariana – works by Gabriel, Schutz, Vivaldi and Telemann **17.30** Vocal Music **18.00** From the Record Shelf **19.00** Excerpts from Operas by Donizetti, Verdi, Puccini and Gounod **20.05** Musical Medley **20.30** Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra, live broadcast – songs in Hebrew and from musicals, films **23.00** Concerti Grossi by Correll and Geminiani; Tartini: Solo Works

RADIO 1st

6.03 Programmes for Olim **7.30** Programme in Easy Hebrew **8.05** Compass **9.05** Information for Listeners **10.05** Morning Pearls **11.05** Hebrew Songs **12.05** Mideast Medley **13.00** News in English **13.30** News in French **14.05** Youth Magazine **15.30** Everyman's University **16.05** The Golden Age Club **17.00** News in English **17.05** News in French **17.10** Songs for the Afternoon **18.06** Jewish Tradition **19.05** The *Mishna* Portion for today **19.20** Bible Reading **19.30** Programmes for Olim **22.05** Call the Psychologists **00.00** News

RADIO 2nd

6.10 Gymnastics **6.30** News roundup **6.52** Green Light – drivers' corner **7.00** This Morning – news magazine **8.05** Making an Issue **9.05** House Call with Rivka Michaeli **10.05** All Shades of the Network **12.05** O.K. On Two **13.00** Midday – news commentary, music **14.05** Arts and Culture magazine **14.30** Humour **15.05** Songs and Homework **16.05** Economics Magazine **17.05** Magic Moments **18.06** Health Magazine **18.45** Sports **19.00** Today – radio newsreel **19.35** Hebrew Songs **20.05** Cantorial Requests **22.05** Wandering **00.05** Midnight Magazine **00.15** Songs for the End of the Day

ARMY

6.05 University on the Air **6.30** Open Your Eyes – songs, information **7.07** "707" **8.00** Good Morning Israel **9.05** In the Morning **10.05** Hebrew songs **11.05** Right Now **13.05** Daily sounds **14.05** Daily Meeting **15.05** Festival songs **16.05** Israel Festival 1988 **18.15** From Underground to Army **17.00** Evening Newsreel **18.05** Economics Magazine **19.05** Military Literature Magazine (Repeat) **20.05** Evening Star **21.00** Mabat – TV Newsreel **21.30** Everyman's University **22.05** Popular Songs **23.05** This was the Day

ARMY TWO

19.05 Shooting from the Hip **20.05** Emergency Call-Up Coffee Break **23.05** All That Jazz

CINEMA

JERUSALEM

Beit Agron: 6 The Ten Commandments; 8 King of Hearts; 10 Draughtsman's Contract; 12 midnight Lolita. **Cinemathequ:** 4 The Lord of the Kings; 7 Koyaanisqatsi; 7:30 The Meadow; 9:45 Peeping Toms; 9:45 The Petrified Forest. **Eden:** 4:30, 7:15, 9:15 Throw Momma from the Train. **Edison:** 4:30, 7:15, 9:15 Overboard. **Jerusalem Theatre:** 7, 9:30 Au Revoir, les Enfants. **Kfir:** 4:30, 7:15, 9:15 House of Games. **Mitchell:** 7:15, 9:15 Moonstruck. **Orgil:** 4:30, 7, 9 Three Men and a Baby. **Orion Or 1:** 4:30, 7:15, 9:15 Rent-A-Cop. **Orion Or 2:** 11:15 p.m. Betty Blue; 5:45, 8:45 The Last Emperor. **Orion Or 3:** 4:30, 7, 9 Couch Trip. **Orion Or 4:** 4:30, 7, 9 Stakeout. **Orion Or 5:** 4:30, 7, 9, Prayer for the Dying. 11:15 p.m. No Mercy. **Orna:** 4:30, 7, 9:15 Nuts. **Ron:** 4:15, 6:45, 9:15 Broadcast News. **Semadar:** 7, 9:15 Wall Street.

TEL AVIV

Beit Ilesain: 11:15 Animal House. **Ben-Yehuda:** 5, 7:15, 9:30 Baby Boom. **Chen 1:** 5, 7:40, 9:55 Three Men and a Baby. **Chen 2:** 4:50, 7:25, 9:50 Wall Street. **Chen 3:** 3:30, 6:30, 9:30 The Last Emperor. **Chen 4:** 2, 7:30, 9:50 Someone to Watch Over Me. **Chen 5:** 11 a.m., 2, 5, 7:20, 9:55 Hello Again. **Dekel:** 7, 9:45 Broadcast News. **Dizengoff:** 11 a.m., 1:30, 5, 7:30, 9:50 Sofia. **Dizengoff II:** 11, 1:30, 5, 7:30, 9:50 Sammy and Rosie Get Laid. **Dizengoff III:** 11 a.m., 1:30, 5, 7:30, Au Revoir, Les Enfants. 9:50 Manon. **Drive-In** 7:45, 10 Suspect. 12:00 midnight Sex film. **Esther:** 5, 7:30, 9:50 Saigon. **Gat:** 5, 7:30, 9:45 Nuts. **Hakolnoa ZOA House:** 5, 7:30, 9:45 A Taxing Woman. **Hod:** 5, 7:15, 9:30 Overboard. **Institut Francais:** 7:30 Moliere. **Lev I:** 2, 5, 7:40, 9:55 Le Grand Chemin. **Lev II:** 2, 5, 7:25, 9:50 C'Eravamo tanto Amati. **Lev III:** 2, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 The Hidden Fortress. **Lev IV:** 2, 5, 7:50, 10 L'Ami de Mon Ami. **Limor Hamehudash:** 5, 7:15, 9:30 Couch Trip. **Maxim:** 5, 7:30, 9:40 Fatal Attraction. **New Gordon:** 5, 7:30, 9:45 The Beauty of Vice. **Orly:** 5, 7:30, 9:30 Moonstruck. **Paris:** 12 noon, 2, 4, 7:15, 9:30 Lady Eve. **Peer:** 7:30, 9:30 In The Name of the People. **Shahaf:** 5, 7:30, 9:30 Throw Momma from the Train. **Sivan:** 7:30, 9:40 The Law of Desire. **Tamuz:** 7, 9:30 Clockwork Orange. **Tayelet:** 3, 7:15, 9:30 House of Games. **Tayelet 2:** 3, 7:15, 9:50 Prayer for the Dying. **Tayelet 3:** 6:15, 9:15 Hanna's War. **Tchelet:** 5, 7:30, 9:45 Blind Chance. **Tel Aviv:** 5, 7:30, 9:30 Penitentiary III. **Tel Aviv Cinemathequ:** 7:30 La Salamandre; 9:30 Abel. **Tel Aviv Museum:** 4:30, 7, 9:30 Black Eyes. **Zafon:** 5, 7:30, 9:50 White Mischief.

HAIFA

Atzmon 1: 4:30, 7, 9:15 Moonstruck. **Atzmon 2:** 2:4:30, 7, 9:15; Throw Momma from the Train. **Atzmon 3:** 4:30, 7, 9:15 The Couch Trip. **Chen Hamehudash:** 4:30, 7, 9:15 Saigon. **Keren Or Hamehudash:** 4:30, 7, 9:15. In the Name of the People. **Orah:** 4:30, 7, 9:15 White Mischief. **Orly:** 7, 9:15 Le Grand Chemin. **Peer:** 4:30, 7:00, 9:15 Three Men and a Baby. **Rav-Gat 1:** 4:15, 6:45, 9:15 Broadcast News. **Rav-Gat 2:** 7, 9:15 Black Eyes. **Rav-Or 1:**,5, 8:15 The Last Emperor. **Rav-Or 2:** 4:30, 6:50, 9:15 Wall Street. **Rav-Or 3:** 4:30, 6:50, 9:15 Nuts. **Ron:** weekdays 4:30, 7, 9:15 Baby Boom. **Sawion:** 7, 9:15 Three Men and a Baby. **Shavit:** 7:15, 9:15 Family Affair.

RAMAT GAN

Lily 7:30, 9:30 House of Games. **Oasis:** 5, 7:30, 9:45 Three Men and a Baby. **Ordea:** 6:15, 9:15 Hanna's War. **Rav-Gan 1:** 5, 7:30, 9:55 Wall Street. **Rav-Gan 2:** 5, 7:25, 9:50 Nuts. **Rav-Gan 3:** 5, 7:25, 9:55 Suspect. **Rav-Gan 4:** 6:15, 9:15 The Last Emperor.

HERZLIYA

Dan Accadia Cinema Club 7, 9:30 Fatal Attraction. **Daniel Hotel The Auditorium:** 7, 9:30 Jean de Florette. **David:** 7:15, 9:30 Missing in Action. **New Tiferet:** 7:30, 9:30 Empire of the Sun.

HOLON

Armon Hamehudash: 5, 7:30, 9:50, Streetwise. **Migdal:** 7:30, 9:30 Saigon. **Savoy:** 5, 7:15, 9:30 Overboard.

BAT YAM

Atzmaut: 5, 7:30, 9:30 Moonstruck.

GIVATAYIM

Hadar: 5, 7:30, 9:30 Moonstruck.

RAMAT HASHARON

Kochav: 4:15 Nils Holgerson; 7, 9:35 Dirty Dancing.

PETAH TIKVA

G.G. Hechal 1: 5, 7:30, 9:30 Moonstruck. **G.G. Hechal 2:** 6:15, 9:10 Hanna's War. **G.G. Hechal 3:** 6:15, 9:10 The Last Emperor.

KIRYAT ONO

Community Centre: 8 Space Balls.

RISHON LEZION

G.G. Ron 1: 5, 7:30, 9:30 Baby Boom. **G.G. Ron 2:** 6:30, 9:30 The Last Emperor.

NETANYA

Dor Hechal Hatarbut: 7, 9:30 The Shop Around the Corner. **Studio Netanya:** 5, 7:15, 9:30 Suspect.

BEERSHEBA

Chen: 6, 9 Hanna's War.

WHAT'S ON

Notices in this feature are charged at NIS10.60 per line, including VAT. Insertion every day of the month costs NIS 211.60 per line, including VAT, per month.

JERUSALEM

Museums

ISRAEL MUSEUM. EXHIBITIONS: Treasures of the Aleppo Community: The Aleppo Codex, rare photographs ◇ The Weisbord Collection ◇ Van Abbe Museum Collection ◇ "Glancas" by Daniel Buren ◇ Mazin Wing for Jewish Ceremonial Art: most comprehensive collection of Judaica, incl. the Stieglitz Coll. ◇ Fresh Paint: The Young Generation in Israeli Art ◇ Confrontation and Confirmation: Aspects of Connoisseurship in Prints and Drawings ◇ The Marc Engelhard Collection ◇ Bezalel Graduate ◇ Edomite Shrine ◇ News in Antiquities. SPECIAL EXHIBITS: Priestly Benediction on Silver Scrolls ◇ Tang Dynasty Ceramics ◇ Decorated set of woman's shrouds, Germany. PERMANENT EXHIBITIONS: Archeology, Heritage, Ethnic Art, Dead Sea Scrolls (Shrine of the Book). VISITING HOURS: 10-10. At 3: Guided tour, Shrine of the Book (English). 4-7: Portrait of My Mom, Youth Wing. At 4:30: Stories for 4-7 year olds (Hebrew), Youth Wing. At 4:30: Guided tour, Museum Highlights (English). At 7: Gallery talk: Weisbord Collection, Weisbord Pavilion. **ARCHEOLOGY (ROCKEFELLER) MUSEUM.** Brummer Collection: Greek and Roman Sculpture ◇ Crusader Art. VISITING HOURS: Sun.-Thur. 10-5. Fri., Sat. 10-2. Guided tour (English) Sun., Wed. 11 a.m.

L.A. MAYER MUSEUM FOR ISLAMIC ART. Visiting hours: Sun.-Thur. 10-1; 3:30-6. Fri. closed. Sat. and holiday eves 10-1. Holidays: check with Museum. 2 Hapalmah St., Tel. 661291/2. Bus No. 15.

SKIRBALL MUSEUM of Biblical Archeology of the Hebrew Union College, 13 King David Street. Tel. 203333. Visiting hours: Sun.-Thur. 10-4, Fri., Sat. and hol. 10-2.

Conducted Tours

HADASSAH HOSPITAL. Ein Kerem, Chagall Windows - synagogue open Sun.-Thur., 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., closed 1:30-2 p.m. Tours: English, hourly on the half hour, 8:30 a.m.-12.30 p.m., and 2:30 p.m.; German, 8 a.m., 9 a.m., 2 p.m.; French, 10 a.m., 2 p.m.; Spanish, 11 a.m.; Hebrew, 12 noon. Entrance fee. **Hadassah Mt. Scopus or Half-day tours of all installations:** Reservations only, Tel. 02-416333, 446271.

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English tours daily Sunday through Thursday: 1. Mount Scopus, 11 a.m. from the Bronfman Reception Centre, Administration Building. Buses 9, 28, 4a, 26 & 23 to the first underground stop. 2. Givat Ram Campus, 9 & 11 a.m. from the Sherman Building. Buses 9, 28 & 24. Tel. 882819.

SCHOCKEN INSTITUTE & LIBRARY, 6 Balfour Street. Hebrew and English guided tours of exhibition of Ancient Books and Illuminated Manuscripts, Sunday and Wednesday, 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 3:00 p.m. Entrance free. Tel. 631288, 634540.

TEL AVIV

Museums

TEL AVIV MUSEUM OF ART. EXHIBITIONS: Fresh Paint: The Younger Generation in Israeli Art ◇ Skyline: Israeli photographers contemplate the landscape ◇ Georg Baselitz and Ralf Penck: Prints from the Museum Collection ◇ Crouching Woman, sculpture by Bernard Reder, 1930, and drawings and prints by Reder ◇ Arab with Flower, Pinhas Litvinofsky. **HELENA RUBINSTEIN PAVILION.** Work by winners of America-Israel Cultural Foundation Scholarships. VISITING HOURS: Museum and Pavilion: Sun.-Thur. 10 a.m.- 8 p.m.; Fri. 10 a.m.- 2 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.; 7-

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AMIT WOMEN (formerly American Mizrachi Women). For a free conducted tour of our institutions, call Tel Aviv 220187, 233154; Jerusalem 699222.

WIZO. To visit our projects call Tel Aviv, 232939; Jerusalem, 226060; Haifa, 388817.

ORT. To visit our technological High Schools, call Jerusalem 533141; Tel Aviv 396171, 233231, 240529; Netanya 33744.

NA'AMAT (P.W.). Visit our projects. Tel Aviv, 210791; Jerusalem, 244878.

HADASSAH TOURISTS/VISITORS OFFICE (and Clinics), Medical Building, 8 a.m.-8 p.m. Tel. 03-221226, 228812, 243933.

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Museums

HAIFA MUSEUM, 26 Shabbtai Levy St., Tel. 523255. EXHIBITIONS: Music and Ethnology ◇ The Art of Porcelain ◇ Modern Art: Haifa - Portrait of a City ◇ Ancient Art - Egyptian textiles, terracotta figurines, Shikmona finds. Open: Sun.-Thur. & Sat. 10-1, Tue. & Sat. 6-9. Ticket also gives admission to National Maritime, Prehistory & Japanese Museums.

WHAT'S ON IN HAIFA, dial 04-640840

Arab-British Chamber joins campaign

Pressure builds to block UK travel convention in Israel

By DAVID HOROWITZ
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

LONDON – The Arab-British Chamber of Commerce has joined the increasingly vicious campaign to block this winter's Association of British Travel Agents (ABTA) convention in Jerusalem.

In a letter sent out to all ABTA members, the Chamber expressed astonishment that the convention was going ahead in "Israeli-occupied Jerusalem ... in the light of the killings and brutalities being committed by the Israeli Army against unarmed Palestinians."

The letter's joint signatories, Chamber Chairman Sir Richard Beaumont and Secretary-General *Abdul Karim* al-Mudaris, concede that it was "unusual" for an organization such as theirs to address "what appears an essentially political matter."

But they justified their intervention by asserting that the ABTA's apparent endorsement of "an Israeli annexation policy which the United Nations does not accept" was causing deep offence throughout the Arab community, "and business relations are bound to be damaged." The offended Arab world, the letter adds tellingly, "represents the United Kingdom's third largest export market."

An ABTA spokesman told *The Jerusalem Post* that the association was taking no action over the letter, having decided that the best policy was to ignore it.

In the wake of the letter's distribution, however, ABTA Director-General David Epstein has reaffirmed ABTA's commitment to the Jerusalem venue, noting that "Israel is a wonderful country for holidaymakers and an ideal setting for a business convention."

ABTA's spokesman said it would be impossible to ascertain the impact of the letter in particular, and the campaign against Jerusalem in general, until early July when delegates began making their convention reservations.

The association's annual conference usually attracts some 3,000 delegates, and early predictions were that the Jerusalem event in October/November would top this figure, bringing in considerable revenue directly, and, more significantly, encouraging many millions of pounds of British investment in the Israeli tourism industry.

The Chamber's letter is only the latest phase in a campaign against Jerusalem that began almost immediately after ABTA members selected the venue last December.

Protests within the trade forced an ABTA delegation to make an unscheduled scouting mission to Israel, to allay safety concerns. Then, earlier this month, an ABTA official held talks over security with the PLO's representative here.

The Campaign for Palestinian Rights group has also been picketing ABTA member's shops around the country, in protest against their encouragement of "tourism to the terror state," and distributing leaflets calling on the public to press agents into reversing "their provocative plans" for a Jerusalem conference that would bring "a big increase in tourist revenue for this repressive racist state."

Martin Savitt, chairman of the British-Israel Chamber of Commerce's anti-boycott coordinating committee, has strongly criticized the Arab-British Chamber for intervening over the ABTA convention, seeing in the letter an implied threat of boycott reprisals for those delegates who choose to attend.

Campaign for 5-day work week slated

By JEFF BLACK
For The Jerusalem Post

The Histadrut is readying a massive advertising campaign to begin within the next few days to stress the benefits of a five-day work week in the public sector, Trade Union Department officials told The Jerusalem Post yesterday.

In last year's public sector wage accord, the Treasury agreed to the Histadrut's demand to introduce a shorter working week this year, but so far no steps have been taken to implement it.

The labour federation's campaign, which will include newspaper advertisements and stickers alongside more traditional union activities, such as information meetings at work, is aimed at bringing "the issue into the public domain," deputy department head Meir Gatt said.

The campaign will focus on both the benefits for workers and to the economy of a shorter working week. The ads will stress that a five-day week leads to greater efficiency and motivation to work and will not harm productivity or services normally provided to the public on a Friday. A report drawn up for the Labour Ministry last year found that in factories where a five-day week was introduced productivity actually increased in 30% of them while 56% of the factories surveyed reported no change in productivity.

Gatt said the Histadrut was not prepared to launch a general strike to force the Treasury's hand over this issue, but noted that department has recommended that each union separately declare a labour dispute June 16 if there is no progress on this issue. After the 14-day cooling-off period prescribed by law, each union would then be free to decide on what form of industrial action to take to further their aims.

Another senior department official Ephraim Jiloni meanwhile warned the Treasury against using the transition to a five-day week as a bargaining chip in this year's wage negotiations. "We have already reached an agreement to move to a shorter week," he said, "and have no intention of paying twice for the same thing."

The Histadrut, however, faces a number of difficulties in presenting a common front on this issue. Under last year's agreement, the move to a five-day week will not lead to a reduction in weekly work hours from 45 to 40.

But some union leaders, such as Civil Servants Union head Reuven Ben-Ami, have already declared they will not introduce a shorter working week without a corresponding reduction in weekly work hours, something the Treasury opposes.

If the public sector does go over to a five-day, 45-hour week, the Histadrut will have problems maintaining its members present salary levels. As Gatt noted, people working a nine-hour day will have less energy to work overtime and thus top up their wages. He also said that working mothers might also find it difficult working a nine-hour day.

FINE PRINT/ Shlomo Maoz

Tourists: Have crisis, won't travel

The hoteliers are killing the goose that lays the golden eggs. The noise they are making over the tourism crisis is so loud that even those abroad who had not paid much attention to the unrest in the territories, or only had some doubts about coming to visit Israel, were eventually convinced to drop their plans.

The hoteliers are notorious for their exaggerated demands from the government. Knowing from the past that making a fuss is always helpful, they overstated what is in fact a bad situation in their sector to prepare the decision makers in the government to meet their demands. An industry leader was asked why they were painting the situation in such dark colours, since the atmosphere that they are creating will in the long run simply do them more damage. He answered that the fuss that they were making would only fall on the right ears, not travel abroad, where it could scare off potential tourists.

It seems the hoteliers don't understand how far the globalization of communications has gone.

This is a vicious circle, where more complains will lead to fewer tourists here, in turn leading to more belly-aching by the hoteliers asking for more help.

The hoteliers are now seeking a cut in the municipal tax (*arnona*), permission to recycle the loans that they took for refurbishing their hotels, and more funds for advertising Israel's sun and fun. The government has already agreed to allocate more funds for advertising to offset the bad image that the half year of *intifada* has caused, but no decision have been taken on the other demands.

To help them would be a mistake. The government should be tough and act as if nothing has happened. If the hoteliers think that they have a problem, they can use their own resources to overcome them. A real businessman accumulates capital and resources in the good years for use in bad years, should there be any.

In Israel the economic system used to be – and sometimes still is – predicated on the assumption that when a entrepreneur makes some money it's his natural right, but when he loses it, the government must step in to rescue him.

BANKING ON IT/ Pinhas Landau

Taming your overdraft

If you are fed up with trying to tame your overdraft, what follows concerns you. If you are among the few who don't run an overdraft, you may still be interested to learn about your friends' and neighbours' problems – as well as those of your bank.

The first Banking On It of 1988 focussed on the stirring of unrest among bankers who feared that the public was saddling itself with too much short-term debt, and raised the idea of consolidation, then being tentatively examined in some banks.

Within weeks, it became clear that the massive surge of growth in consumer credit that had characterized the banking system during 1986 and 1987 had run out of steam. Therefore, the first danger, that many people would bury themselves in debt, became less immediate. The problem that remained, however, was of the structure of the debt that had been taken on.

Most existing consumer credit is in the form of revolving credit, meaning it doesn't need to be paid off fully at or by given date. The borrower has credit facility or line put at his disposal, whether via an overdraft arrangement, or through credit card, or system such as "Discount Extra." The idea behind these facilities is that the initial and subsequent allocations of credit are based on the borrower's income flow, and are for convenience in shopping, etc., but will not swell so large as to seriously inconvenience him or her.

In practice, however, many people borrowed too much.

The cost of this credit was not cheap, however, although it became less expensive as time went on. But – or at least so many analysts believe – the public was unable to fully evaluate the real costs of this credit, as it had not yet adjusted its thinking to the small numbers that now characterized the post-inflation economy. In any event, it was cheaper than the credit offered by retailers on purchases via staggered payments (*tashlumim*).

> A few radical bankers would like overdrafts to disappear, but even they realize that living on overdrafts has become too deeply ingrained in the Israeli reality.

Furthermore, the banks were eager to push credit on people, because head offices knew that this was the most profitable area of their operations and made clear to branches that this was what they should be busy with.

The combination of eager customers, eager bankers and supposedly cheap money, proved extremely potent. Bank profits boomed, retail sales soared and for short time everyone was happy. Second thoughts began appearing in late 1987, about the same time that the economy started slowing down. The subsequent brouhaha over bouncing cheques, which merged into the *intifada* panic of December/January, increased the sense of unease in conservative, or sensible, banking circles.

The results are now becoming apparent. There is distinct move in the direction of term lending, not only in addition to, but mainly as replacement of revolving credit. Term lending means giving loan that must be repaid on certain date, or over given period of time. Once the loan is paid off, both sides are free to start again from scratch, or cease their relationship.

The attraction of term loans, therefore, is that the customer knows from the outset the extent of his obligation – in practice, the size of his monthly repayment – and how long he must carry it. He can more easily gear his projected spending to that kind of framework. The bank, too, can more easily assess the customer's ability to take on and discharge debts that have a clear beginning and end.

This is not to suggest that the overdraft is about to disappear. A few radical bankers would actually like that to happen, but even they realize that living on overdrafts has become too deeply ingrained in the Israeli corporate and household reality to be quickly eliminated. What is going on, therefore, is an attempt to somewhat reduce the currently overwhelming imbalance between revolving credit and term loans within total consumer debt. If the latter element could be boosted at the expense of the former, lot of bankers would feel happier and lot of their customers would be better off. This ability of the banks to take longer-term view of their own and their customers' businesses is one of the most encouraging signs of maturity currently on display in Israeli banking.

The name of the new game, therefore, is consolidation, (in Hebrew, *konsolidatsia*), and what growing number of customers are likely to be hearing from their banks in the coming weeks and months is something like this:

"Mr./Mrs./Ms. Cohen, I see that your overdraft has been swelling for some time now, and is more often than not beyond the limit we fixed. Of course, we wouldn't bounce the cheques of such a respectable and valued client as yourself, but we feel that this situation is not in your best interests. Why, after all, should you pay the excess surcharge rates most of the time? We make plenty of profit anyway – ha,ha.

"We could, of course, simply raise the overdraft limit alloted you – as we did last year, and the year before, and the year before .... But we would suggest that this is not an effective solution, because you'll probably soon over-run the new limit, too.

"What we want to suggest, therefore, is one-time loan large enough to cover the whole overdraft, and more perhaps, so that you can start out afresh. You would have to meet fixed repayments on this loan, and you would know exactly how much they were and could plan accordingly. Then, you might try living more or less within your budget, with only modest overdraft facility, or maybe none at all – who knows, it's worth try."

That is the basic sales pitch. It is already in use in Bank Hapoalim, and is undergoing extensive testing in Israel Discount Bank. Leumi has been using broader mixture of lending instruments, including term loans, and is thus less in need of re-orienting its thinking as its practice, by becoming more selective and less aggressive in marketing consumer credit of all sorts.

What is most important to the customer is to appreciate the difference between the two main sorts of term loans being offered – the unlinked and the linked. The unlinked loans are usually for 24-36 months and are charged at floating rate of prime plus about 2% per month, or 3.25% altogether at the current prime rate. That is very expensive, both absolutely, and relative to the most common alternative. This is an index-linked loan, usually for five years, and costing between 0.9% and 1.1% per month, over and above the rate of inflation.

Given that the average monthly index for the last few years has been about 1.5%, it is clear that the linked version is indeed much cheaper, as well as being spread over considerably more time. Nor should the threat of a future rise in the rate of inflation change this calculation, since this would soon feed into higher prime rate.

Therefore, as a generalization, index-linked term loans are better than unlinked, floating-rate loans based on the prime rate. In the case of fixed-interest term loans, such as those offered by Leumi last year and this at between 2% and 2.5% per month for loans of 6-12 months, the customer has to make up his own mind, by comparing these terms with the alternatives available, and with his expectations regarding the direction of both inflation and interest rates. As far as overdrafts are concerned, almost anything is cheaper than paying the rates charged on overrunning the allotted limit.

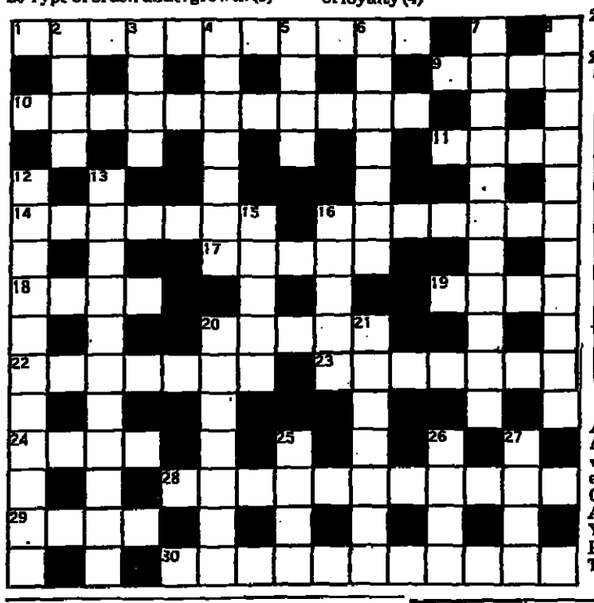
CROSSWORD

ACROSS

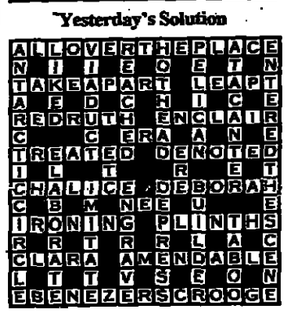
1 Dolly confused English Saint and Welsh Wizard (5,6)
9 Stake one's fortune? (4)
10 Fanciful aim maybe to drink tea, possibly about four (11)
11 Play, but don't bother about the score (4)
14 A French and a Western leader are in the dark (7)
16 Run sail out when away from the mainland (7)
17 Makes a nominal subscription, perhaps (5)
18 It's wet—so is he! (4)
19 Mother, I'm seriously hurt! (4)
20 Type of brush undergrowth (5)
22 Sailor with the mate a great deal (7)
23 A contest between two Poles and an Arab (7)
24 Annoy an informer (4)
28 Well-directed children (4,3,4)
29 A mother for one who was motherless (4)
30 Board members show the way to make a speech (11)

DOWN

2 Type of stone fruit (4)
3 The philosophy of Goya, perhaps (4)
4 They may be responsible for reports from the front (7)
5 It may be taken as an indication of loyalty (4)
6 Controls Earth's gravity over the Poles (7)
7 Camille is upset about an unsuitable marriage (11)
8 Character in rage meant to explode (11)
12 Essential pleasure U.S. lawyer has in mind (11)
13 Dictatorial soldiers in Khaki, for example (11)
15 The safe drinking number? (5)
16 Business lacks go in Pakistan (5)
20 Highly vocal females cause trouble in a prison (7)
21 It's a fixed sort of charge (7)
25 Island across which aircraft fly, we hear (4)
26 Open a pickle container for example (4)
27 An opening possibly lost (4)



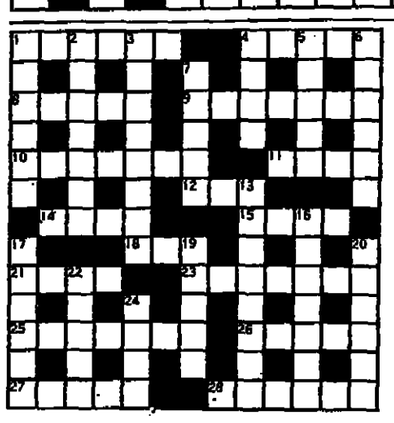
Yesterday's Solution



QUICK SOLUTION

ACROSS: 1 Quay, 3 Industry, 9 Appal, 10 Lee side, 11 Tow, 13 Crossword, 14 Petite, 16 Allied, 18 Abhorrent, 20 Gum, 22 Twosome, 23 Super, 25 Cuddling, 26 Oral. DOWN: 1 Quart, 2 Asp, 4 Nelson, 5 Utensil, 6 Tailoring, 7 Yielded, 8 Bloc, 12 Watchword, 14 Plastic, 15 Turmoil, 17 Severn, 19 Task, 21 Mural, 24 Par.

QUICK CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1 Nucleus (6)
4 Goblin (5)
8 Edge along (5)
9 Stress (7)
10 Keep out (7)
11 Measure (4)
12 Pale (3)
14 Otherwise (4)
15 Frank (4)
18 Delve (3)
21 Standard (4)
23 Moment (7)
25 Elucidate (7)
26 Din (5)
27 Crest (5)
28 Recover (6)

DOWN

1 Fate (6)
2 Fundamental (7)
3 Beheaded (6)
4 Fasten (4)
5 Pilot (5)
6 Over there (6)
7 Scatter (5)
13 Balderdash (8)
16 Scrutinize (7)
17 Charm (6)
19 Titan (5)
20 Current (6)
22 Swift (5)
24 Challenge (4)

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Carmiel *988555	Netanya *23333
Dan Region *781111	Petah Tikva *9231111
Eilat 72333	Rehovot *461333
Hadera *322333	Rishon LeZion *942333
Haifa *512233	Safed 930333
Hatzor 996333	Tel Aviv *5460111
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WBDP

Operating profit off

Mizrahi net rose in quarter

By PINHAS LANDAU

United Mizrahi Bank's first-quarter net profit jumped 75% over the same period of 1987, and amounted to NIS 6.8 million, the bank said yesterday. But operating profit dropped slightly, and the increase in net profit stemmed from reduced losses in non-recurring items.

Gross operating profit fell 8% to NIS 16.7m., while a rise in the bank's tax bill left after-tax operating profit off 16% at NIS 8.4m. The changes occured in two areas – the bank's subsidiaries' profits dropped compared with January-March 1988, apparently reflecting Mizrahi's foreign operations and its loss from non-recurring operations such as asset sales narrowed from NIS 3.5m. to NIS 700,000.

This last item was the crucial factor in the improvement in Mizrahi's bottom line in the previous quarter.

The bank's balance sheet shrank 3.5% over the quarter, to stand at NIS 10.3 billion March 31. Management attributed the decline to the erosion of dollar-denominated assets, when measured in inflation-linked shekels.

Mizrahi also reported marginal declines in loans to and deposits from the public, after gains in these key items during 1987.

Capital means grew by the amount of the net profit, less a NIS 1.6m. adjustment for the erosion of capital in foreign investments. Overall, therefore, capital rose 1.5% to NIS 364m., resulting in a marginal improvement in the capital-to-assets ratio to 3.54%.

Mizrahi claimed to have made "all neccessary provisions for bad debts ... on a conservative basis." It did not, however, reveal the actual amount involved.

Kremlin mulling end to central planning

MOSCOW (Reuter) – Soviet leaders have discussed the possibility of getting rid of state planning altogether in efforts to accelerate economic reform, *Pravda* said yesterday.

The Communist party newspaper, in a startlingly candid review of the pros and cons of the state-run economy, said Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov *and his deputies had* ordered measures to trim the powers of the planning bureaucracy.

But, although the centralized planning system created by Josef Stalin remained seriously distorted and Kremlin economic reforms had got off to a rocky start, they had decided against doing away entirely with state control over production.

"Some economists propose giving production collectives [factories] full autonomy," *Pravda* said in a report on a meeting of the government's presidium. The body groups Ryzhkov and a dozen deputies, including the state planning chief.

"This point of view was expressed at the meeting of the presidium. Speaking openly, *they were talking* in essence about the liquidation of centralized management and planning."

Pravda said the issue came up in a discussion of "state orders" – production requirements handed down from above to firms now meant to pay their own way without state help.

Sixty per cent of Soviet industry began operating on this basis from January 1 under a new law designed to give factories more autonomy in tailoring their production to market demand. In practice, *Pravda* said, ministries were obliging many firms to devote their entire production capacity to filling state orders without providing them with the necessary materials and, often, forcing them to turn out unneeded goods.

Ryzhkov said this had to stop. He ordered that new instructions be drafted to limit the rights of central organs to issue state orders over the next two years.

Pravda said proponents of an end to centralized planning had argued that the failure of the Soviet economy to meet consumer demand made capitalism look good in comparison. *But it said* rejecting the system as a whole would amount to "throwing out the baby with the bath water."

Astra plane chief cause of IAI losses

By JUDY MALTZ
For The Jerusalem Post

The main contributors to Israel Aircraft Industries' operational losses last year were its airplanes division and its Golan Industries subsidiary, a senior company official said yesterday.

The company's airplanes division suffered heavy losses, he explained, because of its continued failure to sell its Astra civilian aircraft. Golan Industries' main line of work is manufacturing seats for these planes, but was also to have made the seats for the Lavi.

IAI last week reported total losses of $96.8 million for the last nine months of 1987 and said that $91.4m. of this sum derived from the costs of closing down the Lavi project. In a statement issued at the time, the company refused to disclose which divisions or subsidiaries were responsible for its operations losses of $5.4m. It merely said they had resulted from the frozen exchange rate coupled with increased local costs, since 60% of its contracts are denominated in U.S. dollars.

According to the official, IAI recently enlisted to a new marketing agent in the U.S., Roy Bregstrom, of New Jersey, described as an expert in marketing executive jets. For the past 15 years, IAI has relied on the Delaware-based Atlantic Aviation company for these services.

Since 1980, IAI has invested $100m. in research and development alone in the Astra. *But it has* only sold 12 planes since then, each for about $5m. The official said that no further progress was made in selling the planes, the future of the programme would have to be assessed at the end of this year.

IAI also said last week that it expected its total turnover to grow from $872.2m. to $1.1 billion. The official forecast that this increase would come mainly from new orders resulting from the "Arrow Project," which is part of the U.S. Star Wars programme.

He said the company could conceivably return to profitability this year because of increased sales and new cost-cutting measures but that the costs of shutting down the Lavi project would continue to be reflected in its results for several more years.

As many as 700 workers, he said, are continuing to be employed by the company, although there was no work for them.

No progress in health talks

By AVI TEMKIN

Four hours of deliberations between Finance Minister Moshe Nissim and Histadrut Secretary-General Yisrael Kessar failed yesterday to produce any breakthrough towards resolving the health crisis, with no progress made in bridging their differences.

Prior to the meeting, Kessar expressed very little of hope of any progress. The problem, he said, was that during the past five years the government had slashed its expenditure on health services and thereby precipitated the current crisis.

He said the government could not expect to reduce to nil its spending on health without creating a major shock to the system.

Nissim for his part repeated the Treasury's position that only by introducing major changes in the agreements signed last November between the Histadrut's Kupat Holim and the doctors on after-hours operations could there be any solution to the current crisis.

However, Nissim and Kessar did decide not to wait any longer for the Sussman committee on public sector wages to issue its recommendations. They decided to renew the collective wage agreement talks immediately, even before the committee issues its proposals.

The Hisatdrut and the Treasury have been waiting for the recommendations for months. At the beginning of the year they had decided to delay the start of wage talks until the proposals were issued by the panel.

But the spread of labour unrest in the public sector and the constant delays in the publication of the committee's proposals convinced them that they needed to renew the talks

Kadmany net fell by half last year

Post Finance Reporter

Kadmany Metal Works Ltd. yesterday reported a halving of its 1987 inflation-adjusted net profit to NIS 412,000. But this result was achieved only by sales of real estate and subsidiaries, while on an operating basis the company registered a loss of NIS 2.75m., after making a profit of NIS *842,000 in 1986*.

Despite these figures, management claimed that the company's performance was improving and its outlook was much better. The subsidiaries sold had contributed to Kadmany's operating losses, noted the shareholders report, while other restructuring measures implemented were already benefiting production and hence profits.

Kadmany has announced its intention of raising more capital via a another public issue on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange, where its shares are already registered, and has begun the preliminary procedures required. The money raised will reduce its finance expenses, which soared last year.

Orders in hand at this time totalled $14.5m., in addition to $13m. of options on existing contracts. The company is negotiating with customers over a further $8m. worth of orders. Kadmany is mounting a major effort to increase its export sales.

Dollar advances

LONDON (AP) – The dollar moved higher against other major currencies in Europe late yesterday, supported by optimism that a technical rally could continue.

The dollar's strength reflected continued upward momentum after the currency broke through a technical chart point at 1.71 Deutschmarks late Friday, dealers said. During Monday's trading, it overcame another hurdle when it passed 1.728

RES JUIF EURO
29, 30, 31 MAY BRUSSEL

Industry and Trade Minister Ariel Sharon at the European Jewish Congress yesterday in Brussels. Also on his three-day itinerary was a meeting with EC Commissioner Claude Cheysson. (R&euter)

Sharon in talks with EC leader on trade protocols

BRUSSELS (AFP). – Industry and Trade Minister Ariel Sharon met here yesterday with European Community Commissioner Claude Cheysson for talks that they said covered the three EC-Israel trade protocols blocked by the European *Parliament*.

Sharon, making a three-day visit to Brussels, said after the meeting that he was "not worried" by Parliament's unprecedented refusal to ratify the protocols.

"What really worries us is that sometimes people here in Europe do not really understand the scope of the problems that we [in Israel] are facing," he said, adding that the issue of security was one of "life and death" for Israelis.

The European Parliament March 9 made its first use of new powers to block bilateral trade agreements by refusing to ratify the trade and financial protocols with Israel. The refusal was widely interpreted as a protest against Israel's crackdown on the Palestinian uprising in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. European ministers have asked parliament to vote again. But Cheysson, who is in charge of Mediterranean affairs, said he had no idea as to the likely outcome.

"Most members do not know exactly why they haven't voted for the protocol," he said. "Whether it's because of violence in the occupied territories or export facilities [to the EC] for Palestinian farmers in the occupied territories, or because they find that these protocols are not proper – it's not clear." Israel had *fought with the EC over whether* farmers in the territories could export their produce to the EC directly, rather than through Israel's official marketing bodies.

The amount involved, he said, was economically unimportant, but politically the refusal "was very significant."

Two protocols, worth respectively around $50 million and $75m., cover an expansion of duty-free access to Israeli products in the EC and a soft loan. The third covers a general expansion of ties in line with Spanish and Portuguese membership in the EC.

Observers say Israel is likely to be eager to solve outstanding problems with the EC before Greece takes over from West Germany as chairman of the July 1. A few days ago, Vice Premier Peres met with EC leaders as well.

Athens has never extended full diplomatic relations to Israel, and usually adopts a much more pro-Arab position that its 11 EC partners.

'Ex-Guinness chairman broke'

By DAVID HOROVITZ
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

LONDON – Former Guinness chairman Ernest Saunders, the man at the centre of the "Guinnessgate" takeover affair, is – in the words of his solicitor – financially ruined, unemployed and unemployable, with a deteriorating marriage.

At an interim remand hearing at Bow Street Magistrates Court here tomorrow, Saunders will again apply for legal aid, claiming that he has no money to pay his present barrister and solicitor, and that a £362,000 debt to his former solicitor is still outstanding.

Saunders, who faces 40 charges, including theft, destroying documents, false accouting and attempting to pervert the course of justice, earned £175,000 a year at Guinness. *Family bank accounts have been* frozen, but Saunders is allowed to draw up to £600 a week living expenses.

Guinness has sued Saunders for allegedly authorizing a £5.2 million payment to former director Thomas Ward, while Saunders has in turn sued Guinness for £2m. in damages for wrongful dismissal.

Tel Aviv Stock Exchange

Selected Prices

Name	Price	Volume NIS	% change
Commercial Banks (not part of arrangement)			
Maritime 0.1	1092	334	-5.2
General non-arr.	18320	19	+0.3
Commercial Banks (part of arrangement – 1988 series)			
IDB ord	107750	978	–
Union	80400	46	+0.2
Discount A	137550	154	+0.1
Mizrahi r	n.t.	n.t.	n.t.
Hapoalim r	73150	1640	–
General A	188600	29	+0.1
Leumi 100.0	46535	3009	–
Fin. Trade 1	61750	43	+0.1
Mortgage Banks & Finance			
Leumi Mort. r	9145	224	-1.0
Dev. Mort.	2406	580	-1.0
Mishkan r	4230	446	-0.5
First Int'l Mort.	7218	30	-1.0
Tefahot r	24750	190	-8.2
Contractors	1601	1054	-23.8
Clal Leasing 0.5	18410	11	+0.1
Insurance			
Reinsurance 5	204	–	–
Hadar 1	149.5	9852	–
Phoenix 1	508	2100	-2.3
Hamishmar 1	6313	170	+4.1
Clal Insurance	280	1467	-2.8
Menorah 1	939	290	+3.9
Securitas	1027	1600	–
Trade & Services			
Intergama 1	734	819	-2.3
Meir Ezra	470	1150	–
Crystal	n.t.	n.t.	n.t.
Supersol A	982	1355	–
Assuta	311	5182	–
Lighterage 1	375	1151	–
Cold Storage 1	485	2549	–
Bonded W'house 1	1223	43	+10.0
Dan Hotels 1	1270	100	+3.3
Coral Beach	8200	320	–
Red Sea Hotels	235	14447	–
Hilton 1	153	1000	+2.7
M.L.L. 1	4551	7	-3.2
Nikuv	680	450	-3.0
Team 1	601	1822	-1.5
Real Estate, Bldg., Agriculture			
Al-Rov	367	7655	+1.9
Africa Isr. 0.1	35400	30	-2.7
Ariedan 1	2720	425	-1.4
Dankner	5100	38	–
Bayside 1	3520	301	–
Isras	18600	606	–
MTM	358	4618	-1.9
Bldg. Resources	562	934	-1.9
Litshitz	242	–	–
Mehadrin	5430	1541	–
Hadarim Prop.	1460	270	-0.7
Industrials			
Dubek r	2100	21	-1.3
Tempo 1	27400	44	-6.5
Sunfrost	15000	187	–
Assis	328	5349	–
Adgar	308	3840	–
Argaman	8590	–	–
Delta Galil 0.1	1165	1863	+0.4
Zikit 1	1595	300	+0.3
Eagle 1	316	500	–
Emek	139	3885	-2.8
Polgat a	630	769	-1.1
Gibor Sabrina	4849	80	-0.0
Urdan 1	5185	197	–
Wire&Cable	353	3450	+0.9
Zion Cables 5	1334	744	–
Pecker Plada.1	1700	545	–
Elbit	264320	11	-0.4
Electra 0.1	1940	830	+1.0
Aryt	13850	32	-2.8
Spectronix 1	1080	2500	+0.9
T.A.T. 5	776	329	-3.0
Y.P. Clal	180	9893	-0.9
Ackerstein 1	380	915	-2.6
Bolos Bros.	90.5	8350	-2.2
Agan	1590	2161	–
Alliance	n.t.	n.t.	n.t.
Gal Indus. 1	348	–	–
Fertilizers 0.1	3100	100	-1.9
Sano	23750	48	+0.4
Periclase	515	5100	–
Frutarom	604	9506	-1.0
Keter	118	1300	-1.3
Cargal	595	2200	-2.5
Ta'al	15402	44	+1.0
Koor	6715	232	-1.0
Investment Companies			
Israel Corp. 5	2810	1637	-0.9
Mizrahi Invest.	30000	51	-3.2
Ylaum	75.5	3579	-3.2
Pama	4824	50	–
Piryon	9800	331	+0.2
Kardan 1	105.5	3176	-6.2
Oil Exploration			
Paz Oil Expl.	22100	202	-1.9

Indices

General Share	Two-Sided	General Bond
97.06 -0.12%	83.95 0.10%	110.44 -0.05%

Share Movements

Advances	Unchanged	Trading Halt	Declines
96 (64)	177 (121)	53 (50)	163 (249)

Statistics

Stock Indices (Main List)

General Share (excl argmt.)	83.74	-0.31
Non-argmt.	83.03	-0.22
Arrangement Banks	106.44	-0.01
Mortgage Banks	102.06	-3.32
Financial Inst.	105.73	-1.01
Insurance	87.61	-0.82
Commerce & Services	74.98	+0.11
Real Estate & Agric.	86.06	-0.05
Industrials	82.81	-0.18
Food & Tobacco	95.01	-1.26
Textiles	70.15	-0.48
Metals	83.34	-0.13
Electronics	88.98	-0.39
Chemicals	93.25	+0.04
Industrial Invest.	71.06	+0.47
Investment Cos.	81.35	-0.02

Stock Indices (Parallel List)

General Index	79.31	-0.63
Commerce and Services	67.12	-2.04
Real Estate	85.43	-0.42
Industrials	78.49	-0.23
Investment Cos.	71.37	-0.06
Oil Exploration		

Bond Indices

Index-linked Bonds	110.70	-0.05
Fully linked	110.97	-0.10
Partially linked		
Foreign Currency	106.00	-0.01
FC denominated	104.49	-0.16
FC linked	109.54	+0.05
Short-term 0-2 yrs	109.81	+0.13
Short-medium 2-5 yrs	110.32	-0.33
Medium-long 5-7 yrs	110.60	+0.12
Long-term 7+ yrs	110.92	+0.07

Turnovers

Total Shares	NIS 11,114,300
Non-arrangement	NIS 6,221,800
Two-sided	NIS 1,249,300
Arrangement	NIS 4,892,500
Bonds	NIS 4,269,100
Treasury Bills	NIS 3,618,000

Bond Market Trends

Index-linked:	
3% fully linked	Mixed to 1%
4.25% fully linked	Falls to 1%
80% linked	Stable/tendency to rise
Rimon	Slightly mixed
Gilboa	Slightly mixed
FC denominated	Slightly mixed
Non-government	Mixed to 2%
T-bills	15.1-17.4%

Arrangement Yields

IDB ord.	15.04%
Union 0.1	14.26%
Discount A	15.00%
Mizrahi R.	nt %
Hapoalim R.	15.21%
General A.	14.79%
Leumi Stock	14.94%
Fin. Trade 1	14.84%

Two-Sided Trading

Name	Morning Price	Morning Volume Shares	Morning % Change	Afternoon Price	Afternoon Volume Shares	Afternoon % Change
First Internat'l	5916	1953	-0.80	5961	1190	–
Fibi	7221	2281	-0.20	7239	910	–
Hassneh r	167	13027	–	169	6000	+1.25
Shilton	678	732	-1.30	n.t.	n.t.	n.t.
Clal Trading	347	4683	+0.30	348	1000	+0.50
Supersol b	917	4377	–	922	1800	+0.50
Delek r	2072	5541	–	2072	8500	–
Africa-Isr. 1.0	31891	305	–	31891	165	–
Azorim	809	3156	–	811	2250	+0.25
Prop. & Bldg.	2512	4149	-0.80	2537	1190	+0.25
ILDC r	64894	228	+0.70	65216	273	+1.25
JEC	289	2000	–	n.t.	n.t.	n.t.
Clal R Estate	636	5295	-0.90	n.t.	n.t.	n.t.
Elite	11850	18	–	n.t.	n.t.	n.t.
Polgat b	524	1521	-0.60	n.t.	n.t.	n.t.
Is. Can Co. 0.1	3041	895	–	n.t.	n.t.	n.t.
Clal Electronics	2069	1697	-1.50	n.t.	n.t.	n.t.
Elron	182655	12	–	183112	12	+0.25
Teva	8273	1265	–	8335	1686	+0.75
Dead Sea	1776	9103	-0.50	1785	1680	uc
Petrochem	844	7089	–	846	6000	+0.25
AIPM	224011	14	–	224011	9	uc
Clal Industries	180	26642	–	180.0	88000	uc
IDB Develop.	6515	2664	–	6515	1120	uc
Elbit	817	2583	-1.00	n.t.	n.t.	n.t.
Israel Corp.	3436	1445	–	3445	770	+0.25
Hapoalim Invest.	681	4498	–	681	4000	uc
Discount Invest.	1875	2331	–	1875	1610	uc
Clal 1.0	988	8172	–	988	8000	uc
JOEL	340	20558	-1.70	343	5100	-0.75

BUSINESS BRIEFS

No Friday pay for staff at kibbutz plant

Hired workers at Kibbutz Kfar Hanasi's metal-working factory, Tabonim Cast Products, have agreed to work two Fridays a month for no pay, as part of the factory's recovery programme adopted last week.

The 150 workers, mainly from the northern Galilee development town of Hazor, also agreed to give up a % wage increase due them starting last January and to allow full labour mobility within the factory.

The workers agreed to make the concessions following the intervention of Histadrut Secretary-General Yisrael Kessar's personal assistant David Levy.

Amnon Bay launch

TEL AVIV – The Amnon Bay Holiday Village, a project of the Galilee Settlement Department of the Jewish Agency, is due to begin its running-in period this August, project manager Eyal Friedman told a news conference here yesterday.

Marketed internationally by Best Western Hotels, the project is being developed in two stages beginning with the first of two resort villages containing 144 two-room family-style units

Construction costs to date have been $10 million including $2 million for the initial infrastructure. The Jewish Agency is hoping to attract private investors for the second stage. *(Greer Fay Cashman)*

NII drug tests

Around 1,900 drug addicts will now have to undergo a stiff medical exam before they can continue to receive National Insurance Institute income-maintenance payments, granted on the grounds that they are unable to work.

NII Director-General Mordechai Zipori yesterday opened a special medical centre in Jaffa, financed by *the NII and aided by the* Health Ministry, which will conduct the examinations. *(Jeff Black)*

Secretary – Jerusalem

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Israel Money Markets

Shekel Deposits (annual rates)

Bank Last Updated	Deposit Size	Pachak	7 days	14 days	30 days
Leumi (May 25)	40-1,000	–	8.00	10.00	11.00
	1,001-10,000	10.00	11.50	11.50	12.00
	10,001-50,000	10.50	11.75	11.75	12.50
	50,001-100,000	11.00	12.00	12.00	13.00
	100,001-500,000	11.00	12.00	12.00	13.00
Hapoalim (April 14)	Up to 9,999	9.00	10.75	10.75	11.75
	10,000-49,999	9.50	11.00	11.00	12.00
	50,000-99,999	9.75	11.25	11.25	12.25
	100,000+	10.00	11.50	11.50	12.50
Discount (April 13)	40-995	7.00	8.00	10.00	12.00
	1,000-9,995	10.00	12.00	12.00	13.00
	10,000-49,995	10.50	12.00	12.00	13.00
	50,000-99,995	11.00	12.50	12.50	13.00
	100,000+	11.00	12.50	13.00	13.00
Mizrahi (April 12)	40-2,000	–	10.00	10.00	11.00
	2,001-10,000	9.50	10.25	10.75	11.00
	10,001-50,000	10.00	10.50	11.00	11.50
	50,001-100,000	10.50	11.00	11.25	12.50
	100,001-250,000	11.00	11.75	11.50	12.75
	250,000+	11.00	11.75	11.75	12.75
First Intl (May 10)	50-999	–	9.39	9.39	10.56
	1,000-9,999	9.00	10.43	10.43	11.52
	10,000-49,999	9.75	10.95	10.95	12.00
	50,000-99,999	10.25	11.47	11.47	12.00
	100,000+	10.75	11.99	11.88	13.00

Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (May 31)

Currency (min. deposit)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar ($100,000)	6.750	7.000	7.500
Pound sterling (£100,000)	6.125	6.625	7.250
Deutschmark (DM 200,000)	2.500	2.750	3.125
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	1.750	1.875	2.000
Yen (1 million yen)	2.875	3.000	3.125

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI. Rates vary according to size of deposit.

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates (May 30)

	Cheques and Transfers Buy	Cheques and Transfers Sell	Banknotes Buy	Banknotes Sell	Rep. Rates
Currency basket	1.7060	1.7270	–	–	1.7150
U.S. dollar	1.5697	1.5863	1.54	1.61	1.5783
Deutschmark	0.9118	0.9229	0.89	0.94	0.9157
Pound sterling	2.8063	2.8428	2.84	2.97	2.9222
French franc	0.2710	0.2743	0.26	0.28	0.2727
Japanese yen (100)	1.2588	1.2725	1.23	1.29	1.2628
Dutch florin	0.8133	0.8236	0.80	0.83	0.8178
Swiss franc	1.0899	1.1025	1.07	1.12	1.0968
Swedish krona	0.2633	0.2666	0.26	0.27	0.2648
Norwegian krone	0.2516	0.2547	0.25	0.26	0.2531
Danish krone	0.2396	0.2426	0.24	0.25	0.2411
Finnish mark	0.3863	0.3912	0.38	0.40	0.3886
Canadian dollar	1.2684	1.2822	1.24	1.30	1.2745
Australian dollar	1.2620	1.2778	1.18	1.30	1.2709
S. African rand	0.7017	0.7105	0.46	0.55	0.7056
Belgian franc (10)	0.4346	0.4400	0.43	0.45	0.4393
Austrian schilling (10)	1.2937	1.3099	1.27	1.33	1.3025
Italian lira (1000)	1.2273	1.2426	1.20	1.27	1.2358
Jordanian dinar	–	–	4.29	4.56	4.4192
Egyptian pound	–	–	0.64	0.88	0.7023
ECU	1.9009	1.9246	–	–	1.9108
Irish punt	2.4409	2.4714	2.39	2.53	2.4517
Spanish peseta (100)	1.3812	1.3984	1.34	1.43	1.3868

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI.

U.S. and British financial markets were closed yesterday for the Memorial Day and Late Spring holidays, respectively.

THE JERUSALEM POST

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Founded in 1932 by GERSHON AGRON, who was Editor until 1955: Editor 1955-1974 TED LURIE. Editor 1974-1975 LEA BEN DOR. EDITORIAL OFFICES AND ADMINISTRATION The Jerusalem Post Building, Romema, Jerusalem P.O.Box 81 (91000) Telephone 551616. Telex 26121. Fax 537527. TEL AVIV 9 Rehov Carlebach, POB 20126 (61201) Telephone 03-5614222 Fax 5612261. HAIFA 16 Rehov Nordau, Hadar Hacarmel, POB 4810 (31047) Telephone 645444 Fax 645446. Published daily, except Saturday, in Jerusalem, Israel by The Palestine Post Ltd. Printed by The Jerusalem Post Press in Jerusalem. Registered at the G.P.O. ©The Jerusalem Post 1988. Reproduction, or storage in a retrieval system, *or any other form*, is prohibited without permission.

The summit and Soviet Jews

WHENEVER the U.S. president and the general-secretary of the Soviet Communist Party confer face-to-face, even if primarily on nuclear disarmament, the subject of human rights – in the Soviet Union, that is – is bound to be raised, at the president's behest. Among the human rights which the American side seeks to highlight, and respect for which it tries to press upon the Soviets, pride of place is now regularly enjoyed by the rights claimed by Soviet Jews. Not least among these is the right to emigrate.

This week's Moscow summit has provided Ronald Reagan with an ideal opportunity to reaffirm the unbreakable link that exists, in the U.S. and generally in the West, between world peace and human freedom. And he has done so despite obvious Soviet displeasure.

A token of the president's personal, and political, commitment in this area was given in the meeting he took the trouble to hold at the U.S. embassy yesterday with 120 Soviet oppositionists, nearly half of them Jews who included some renowned "refuseniks."

Ultimately, such a demonstration of foreign concern for human rights in the Soviet Union should be seen as supporting, not undermining Mikhail Gorbachev's struggle for a radical reform of his country's system. This, if it is clearly understood that there are limits to the speed of perestroika-type change in the Soviet Union. It was on that understanding that Israel's foreign minister, Shimon Peres, served notice on the Kremlin that its participation in Middle East peacemaking must be accompanied by a significant rise in the number of emigration permits for Soviet Jews.

The opposing view, aired again this week by Moshe Arens, minister without portfolio, is that Israel should reject any Soviet role whatever in the peace process unless all Soviet Jews are granted the freedom to come to Israel.

For sheer cynicism, there may be little to surpass it even in the armoury of Soviet argumentation. It is based on the certain knowledge that the Kremlin will not accede to any such demand, thus helping spike the very idea of an international peace conference. It also deliberately ignores the fact that, although they are now being allowed to leave their native land in increasing numbers, holding Israeli visas, only a tiny handful of Soviet-Jewish emigrants choose to come to the Jewish state.

On the face of it, the wonder is that the Kremlin lets them. In the past it used to explain that the emigration of Jews could be justified only as being strictly Israel-directed, for otherwise it could breed a general claim of individual right-to-emigration, regardless of the destination, for all Soviet citizens. Now the Kremlin does not seem to care. On the contrary: in their eagerness to establish their human-rights credentials in American eyes, the Soviets are even declining to approve direct Moscow-Bucharest flights by Jewish emigrants on their way to Israel.

Such flights might solve the drop-out problem, Washington concedes, but it would deprive Soviet-Jewish emigrants of their right to choose. Behind this argument stand, for their own reasons, concerned American-Jewish organizations, leading ex-Prisoners of Zion now in Israel, and the Dutch who, in the absence of an Israeli embassy in Moscow, hand out visas to Soviet Jews on Israel's behalf.

What is Israel to do ? The government of the Jewish state can refuse to allow its visas to be misused for the purpose of transportation from one Jewish diaspora to another. Or it can choose to ignore such misuse of its visas, on the assumption that some diasporas are more dangerous for Jews than others. In either case, it cannot blame the Soviets for the fact that the Jews enabled to emigrate go elsewhere.

Summit, perestroika & Soviet Jews

Prof. Herman Branover

PROMINENT Sovietologists who a year ago suggested that what is going on in the Soviet Union under Gorbachev represents nothing but cosmetic changes aimed at pleasing the West and getting a stronger position in negotiations, have to admit now that they have been profoundly wrong. All those who have visited the Soviet Union recently, and even more so those many guests who came here from the USSR to meet their families, have testified that the changes are very real. Actually, the mere coming of those guests and their number is probably the most convincing testimony of the nature of changes.

Although many Soviet citizens, especially those who are older and wiser, still look nervously at the doors, walls and ceiling whenever political issues are discussed in their apartments, there are many others who feel confident discussing internal and external politics of Soviet leaders even in public places. Small, private and cooperative enterprises, permitted just recently, are booming and multiplying. Even scientists have been joining cooperative consulting and research firms. Changes extend into collective farms. All this was unthinkable for many decades.

Of course, one should not jump to the conclusion that the Soviet Union has become a free country. There is still one all-powerful party, and the iron structure of the bureaucratic hierarchy is almost unshaken. The press, although changing, is still full of stereotypes, which often make it impossible to make the distinction between a page from today's paper and a page printed 10 years ago. Foreign travel and professional communication with foreigners still have severe limitations and problems.

And beyond all those reservations about the depth of *perestroika* and normalization, we have to realize that it is impossible to predict how long the present positive developments will continue. The opposition also seems to be real – not invented to fool the West, as some suggested earlier. The workers are unhappy because wages are low. Food supplies are scarce. Private businesses, although few and still insignificant in the scale of the huge country, are enough to awaken envy and hostility (and also anti-Semitism since in the imagination of those non-sophisticated people, private business is automatically identified with Jews). And the most severe concern is, of course, the ban on vodka. Many believe that fighting alcoholism was Gorbachev's greatest mistake.

Thus it can all be reversed at any moment. That is, by the way, one of the reasons why people are so cautious regarding opening private enterprises. The sad memory of the end of Lenin's "New Economic Policy" is still alive.

ALL THE ABOVE was just a very brief overview of the current situation in Russia. This article, however, is concerned with the Jewish aspects of the issue and with defining our responsibilities towards the second biggest Jewish Diaspora in the time of *perestroika* and particularly in the days of the Reagan-Gorbachev summit. To deal with problems of Soviet Jewry using 10-year-old concepts and cliches is not only irresponsible, it is also a real crime in historical perspective.

Unfortunately that is exactly what is happening. Many old-timers in Soviet Jewry organizations in Western countries and in Israel still identify activities for Soviet Jewry with noisy protests, rallies and marches. Trapped by their static vision, they don't even suspect that there is a dynamism in a situation that demands thinking and understanding the dynamism in the methods and approaches to the problem.

The approach to the problem of Soviet Jewry has to undergo *a fundamental* revision and it has to be done very quickly, because the present *situation is very fragile* and nobody knows how long it will last.'

For many years the "let my people go" approach had its justification. It was still an insufficient, narrow approach, ignoring many aspects, for instance "where to go" and "why to go." And the problem soon manifested itself in the so-called "drop-out" problem. But at least there was sense in demanding that the Soviet authorities release thousands of "refuseniks" and a number of prisoners and exiles. Now, for whatever the reason, *perestroika* or the summits or both – the majority of refuseniks, including those who had waited 10-20 years, have been released (several hundred are still kept, mainly on the pretext that they know state secrets).

All prisoners and exiles are out. There are major concessions regarding Jewish issues inside the Soviet Union: harassment of Hebrew teachers has stopped; several synagogues and *mikvaot* have even been renovated and public Jewish acitivites are sometimes sanctioned offically.

Thus, for example, during the recent Lag ba'Omer festival, a public lecture on the history and meaning of the holiday was arranged at the Moscow Great Synagogue. An outstanding, self-taught talmudic scholar, Uri Kamyshov, was invited to lecture.

Another example is the establishment of the Public Council of Jewish Religious Affairs under the chairmanship of Dr. Gregory Rozenshtein, the famous biophysicist and one of the longest-standing refuseniks, and Kogan, Lidsky, Kamyshov and Spektor as members. This council, even if not officially recognized, is in practice not only tolerated but even accepted as a negotiating partner regarding issues of everyday Jewish religious life in different parts of the country.

THERE ARE many more examples of positive developments. However, in many respects the old style is still alive. The same Dr. Rozenshtein who, after more than 15 years' refusal, was told that the secrecy restriction on him is now lifted, has nevertheless not been allowed to leave. This time, the pretext is that his son Michael supposedly knows state secrets (the only place Michael ever worked was a public hospital). Many who would like to apply for exit visas cannot do so, because they must submit many confirmation and acceptance documents, which they simply cannot get. The secrecy pretext is still used, and a person to whom it is applied cannot even argue about it. Sometimes Jewish activities, even in private homes, are condemned and severely misrepresented in the press, causing even greater anti-Semitism on the part of the hostile population.

This is the situation, and we have to be realistic, have to see all sides of it and avoid self-deception. One thing, however, has to be absoutely clear: The approach to the problem of Soviet Jewry has to undergo a fundamental revision and it has to be done very quickly, because the present situation is very fragile and nobody knows how long it will last.

There is definitely no merit in putting all our efforts and resources into shouting "let my people go." At this moment many of these people could go, providing that they really wanted to. Unfortunately, the number of new applications is much too low and the vast majority of those who are getting permission are going elsewhere, not to Israel.

Creation of Jewish motivation among Soviet Jews, which was always important, now becomes more acute than ever before. With much more freedom inside Russia and easier communications, there are many new possibilities to promote and strengthen Jewish awareness there. But, at the same time as in many other countries, when conditions become less tough, Jews become less perceptive.

To many Soviet Jews *perestroika* means, despite all doubts and reservations, a hope for a better life *in* the Soviet Union. Of course many are worried by the growing anti-Semitism, by the increasing threat of the Pamyat organization, etc. But Soviet Jews whose families have lived for three or four generations udner the Soviet regime often prefer to stay where they are established, where the language and culture are familiar – unless they acquire an overwhelming Jewish motivation.

Even the fact that so many guests are now coming from Russia to Israel does not necessarily strengthen the desire of families and friends to come to Israel, but rather the other way around. Indeed, if it is possible to visit, why hurry to change an established life-style and venture into something new – exactly the same approach taken by most American Jews.

ALL THE ABOVE, if properly understand, should lead to clear conclusions regarding priorities for activities on behalf of Soviet Jews at the present time. It also should lead to the conclusion that the main responsibility for the future of Soviet Jews for preventing their total assimilation, for bringing them to Israel, has to be switched from organizations working for Soviet Jewry to the Jewish Agency. Exactly as in relation to Jews in the United States, Argentina or South Africa, it is the Jewish Agency which has to promote Jewish awareness, strengthen Jewish education and create motivation for aliya. The Agency has to be responsible for similar activities on behalf of Soviet Jews while they are still inside the Soviet Union.

The task is enormously difficult. It is necessary to restore, at least partially, all that was destroyed in 70 years of the regime, which had total Jewish assimilation as one of its major tasks. Entire libraries of Jewish books in the Russian language have to be created. A whole culture has to be created. New methods of education for adults and for children have to be developed.

It is probably a life-long task for many educators, thinkers, writers, teachers. Obviously it is going to be a lengthy process, but in education there are no instant solutions. Most importantly, it has to start immediately because, as already pointed out, we don't know how much time we have. If not, there will be no aliya from the Soviet Union. And, ironically and sadly, it is a time when objectively the circumstances favouring a big aliya are better than ever before.

In the past, the Jewish Agency dealt sporadically with the issue of Jewish education in the Soviet Union, with publication of Jewish books in the Russian language, etc. Several times special committees have been established to deal with those tasks. But it was always a very low-key activity.

At the last Zionist Congress in Jerusalem, the importance of promoting Jewish awareness in Russia was spoken about more than in any previous congress. As is well known, the Jewish Agency is now undergoing a process of reconstruction. One of the criteria of the effectiveness of this reconstruction will be the ability of the Jewish Agency to appraise the present situation properly and to arrange activities meeting the acute needs of Soviet Jewry.

The writer is head of Magnetohydrodynamic Laboratories of Ben-Gurion University of the Negev and chairman of "Shamir," a Jerusalem organization dealing with promotion of Jewish awareness among Soviet Jews.

Dry Bones

No one's in charge of toxic waste

D'vora Ben Shaul

THE RECENT LETHAL spill of bromine in the Negev has brought on a spate of charges and countercharges between the ministries involved. Again it is clearly highlighted that when it comes to the management of toxic substances, there's really no one in charge. The care of this vital subject is so fragmented between the various ministries that one never knows whether it's the Ministry of Transport, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Labour, the Ministry of Police or the Ministry of Agriculture that should be approached. Or perhaps someone else?

The time is long past when Israel needs a Ministry of Environmental Quality that would take absolute charge of the handling and management of all toxic substances and would set guidelines for their manufacture, transport, use and disposal. This fact has been pointed out by senior environmentalists for the past 15 years but no move has been made to implement such a plan.

The reasons are not obscure. Certainly every election throws up a new crop of ministers who have no portfolio. Certainly the portion of the total budget allotted to each of the ministries that handle the matter on a part-time, piece-meal basis would fund such a ministry. Certainly there is a need for such a ministry. Unfortunately, the ministries supposedly handling the matter, and doing a rather poor job of it, are reluctant to relinquish authority and, moreover, the part of their budget that is supposed to be allotted to it. The only thing they are willing and even eager to relinquish is responsibility when things go wrong.

This was a relatively small spill in a sparsely populated area. A fire or explosion in either the Machteshim pesticide plant or the Bromine plant in Beersheba could be a thousand times more serious. So, for that matter, could a serious disruption at the Agam herbicide plant near Ashdod. These accidents have happened elsewhere with drastic results. Do we consider ourselves immune?

WE ARE NOW faced with a situation in which the ministries involved have proved conclusively that they are incapable of managing a safe waste-disposal site for toxic materials, incapable of enforcing the laws regarding the random dumping of toxic materials in wadis and empty areas, incapable of enforcing safety rules for a gas plant or a pesticide factory and incapable of the efficient handling of an even minor toxic chemical spill.

And yet, these same people blithely move forward with plans to establish more chemical plants and even a nuclear-reactor generator in the south. One wonders how well they would rise to the challenges of such an installation. If they couldn't handle a small chemical spill for some hours, what would they do in the case of a radioactive spill or leak? Would we have to wait until all the local residents collapsed from radiation poisoning before someone emerged from his paralysis and started to move?

Are we totally incapable of assessing the situation? Does nothing ring a warning bell? Will Israel have to experience a Bhopal or Chernobyl before anyone wakes up?

GAZA DEMO

(Continued from Page One)

Scattered clashes with troops were reported, and the IDF spokesman said two persons were shot and wounded in two separate incidents in Nablus. Sources in Nablus said one person was wounded by gunfire, several by rubber bullets, and one was clubbed after troops pursued him into his home.

At Ra'i near Jenin, security forces demolished the home of a man suspected of stabbing an Israeli youth in Jerusalem's Old City on March 22. The suspect is also believed to have vandalized an Israeli avocado plantation in the West Bank and set fire to an Egged bus taking labourers to Israel on March 6.

A curfew was clamped on the village of Jama'in, south of Nablus, while the security forces investigated an incident Sunday night in which two petrol bombs were thrown at an Israeli bus.

In Azariya near Jerusalem, security forces sealed the homes of two residents suspected of hurling petrol bombs at Israeli cars and at vehicles of local residents they suspected of cooperating with the Israeli authorities.

West Bank settlers yesterday told Prime Minister Shamir that Palestinian attacks on them have become "more serious and massive" and that the IDF senior command didn't even know about some of these attacks.

The settlers have therefore established the Committee for Safe Travel in Judea, Samaria and Gaza and yesterday handed Shamir a list of some 60 incidents that occurred during the past three weeks. They complained that the IDF spokesman had failed to report some incidents, and that the army was not even aware of others.

Committee head Meir Harnoi, of Kedumim, charged the defence establishment with creating a misleading picture by saying the territories have been "relatively quiet."

"It is true there are no riots, but a new stage of the *intifada* has been surfacing. It is directed against the Jewish residents."

Rabin

(Continued from Page One)

Speaking earlier in Kfar Sava, the defence minister said that the U.S. peace initiative had been launched too late. At the same time, he felt it was too early to negotiate peace with local Palestinian leaders, some of whom may be in jail.

Addressing students at Beit Berl, the Labour movement college, only days before U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz was due for another round of talks, Rabin said he doubted whether the initiative would achieve results. "Had it been launched a year ago, it would have had a chance," he suggested. "In the Arab world, and here, people know that a peace initiative is not something that can be achieved in a month, or three months. They know that elections are due in the U.S. and here. 'Hocus-pocus' which would do in four or five months what had not been done for years is unrealistic," he added.

He was in favour of talks with Jordan and "representatives of the territories' residents." Any resident would be acceptable to Israel, he reiterated.

He welcomed the fact that, for the first time since Israel was established, there were now signs that local Arab residents were taking their fate into their own hands.

Thus 90 per cent of the instructions sent here from PLO officials abroad are ignored. Half the fire bomb attacks in the past two weeks were directed by some Palestinians against other Palestinians in an attempt to enforce compliance with instructions, he noted. "Persuasion doesn't work any longer," he said. "Murder, threats, burning of homes and cars is required."

He suggested that the nearly six-month-old *intifada* was exacting a heavy toll on the residents, in part because one out of every three West Bank and Gaza Strip Palestinians work in Israel to make a living. Last year they took home $500 to $700 million in wages. The Arab world failed to raise even one tenth of that for the territories.

He said he hoped that the 1.5 million Palestinians in the territories would eventually "assume the leadership in their struggle over their fate. It will take time, the road is long. The PLO will try to prevent such a leadership from emerging."

READERS' LETTERS

CHOMSKY REPLIES

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post

Sir, – I was intrigued to read the account of my "contributions to political thought" by David Morris (Letters – April 29), including apologetics for Pol Pot and the USSR in Afghanistan, the defence of a neo-Nazi, and my "agnostic" views on the Holocaust – the word "agnostic" placed in quotes so as to insinuate that a source exists. Morris failed to include my claim that the Mossad was responsible for Chernobyl, the Black Death, and the destruction of the library of Alexandria – allegations far more plausible than his because, in these cases, there does not exist a plethora of evidence, including numerous direct quotations, to refute them. Some of Morris's ludicrous fabrications are drawn from the general literature of defamation of dissident opinion, others he appears to have concocted himself. Naturally he offers no evidence, even fabricated.

In a context where there is at least a pretence of semi-seriousness, I would be more than pleased to discuss the facts relating, if only by free association, to Morris's "ravings," to borrow his term. What is more interesting is this illustration of the desperation of those who are unable to respond to evidence and argument that they dislike and the means to which they are driven: hysterical vilification to try to deflect attention from unwanted conclusions, a device familiar in the Stalinist and fascist movements and similar forms of political fanaticism.

With regard to the remainder of his letter, I was able to detect one true statement, perhaps a case of statistical error: I did travel from Massachusetts and gave talks in Tel Aviv.

NOAM CHOMSKY

Cambridge, Mass.

VICTIM OF THE MEDICAL STRIKE

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post

Sir, – I am waiting for "elective" surgery on the pelvis, in pain, walking with increasing difficulty, to the point where it is sometimes a problem to get to the bathroom. My pains and problems began nearly a year ago, but one doctor after another misdiagnosed my problem. It was only in November that a doctor finally diagnosed my condition correctly.

The wheels of Kupat Holim turn slowly, but at last I was scheduled for an operation on April 11, just as the Kupat Holim strike got under way. And I am still waiting. I live alone, in a retirement home of Mishan. My income consists of National Insurance (without welfare increment) plus whatever limited savings I have. If I wanted to do the operation privately, it would deplete my means and leave me nothing to live on for the rest of my life. Yet this is called "elective" surgery!

Newspaper articles comment that the public is indifferent to the strike, and does not react. We, who are waiting for surgery, some of us much sicker than I am, are not indifferent; we are in pain, miserable and helpless in the face of the colossal indifference of the powers-that-be. The doctors are right, they should be paid more. The treasury is right, it doesn't want to start a new round of wage demands. And now a new commission is being set up to investigate the health services. Meanwhile, we, the innocent victims, continue to suffer.

HASSIA BEN-HARAN

Tel Aviv.

COMPUTER TALMUD TEXT

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post

Sir, – Your reporter Haim Shapiro, who determined the agenda of our interview May 6, is to be commended for his perceptive understanding and appreciation of the Saul Lieberman Institute's Computerized Talmud Text.

This data base will maximalize possibilities for studying the ancient Talmud manuscripts, whose text, which differs from the printed in significant fine points, is closer to the Talmud text used and quoted by the classical commentators and codifiers of the medieval period.

I wish to clarify the following: the edition of the *Tosefta* that I referred to is of course the definitive edition by Saul Lieberman. The Talmud manuscript that covers the entire Talmud is the Munich manuscript. The excellent Hamburg manuscript that I mentioned (written in Gerona, 1184) covers the three *Bavot*.

Prof. SHAMMA FIEDMAN
The Saul Lieberman Institute of Talmudic Research, Jewish Theological Seminary of America

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